Ann Arbor Observer

January 2005

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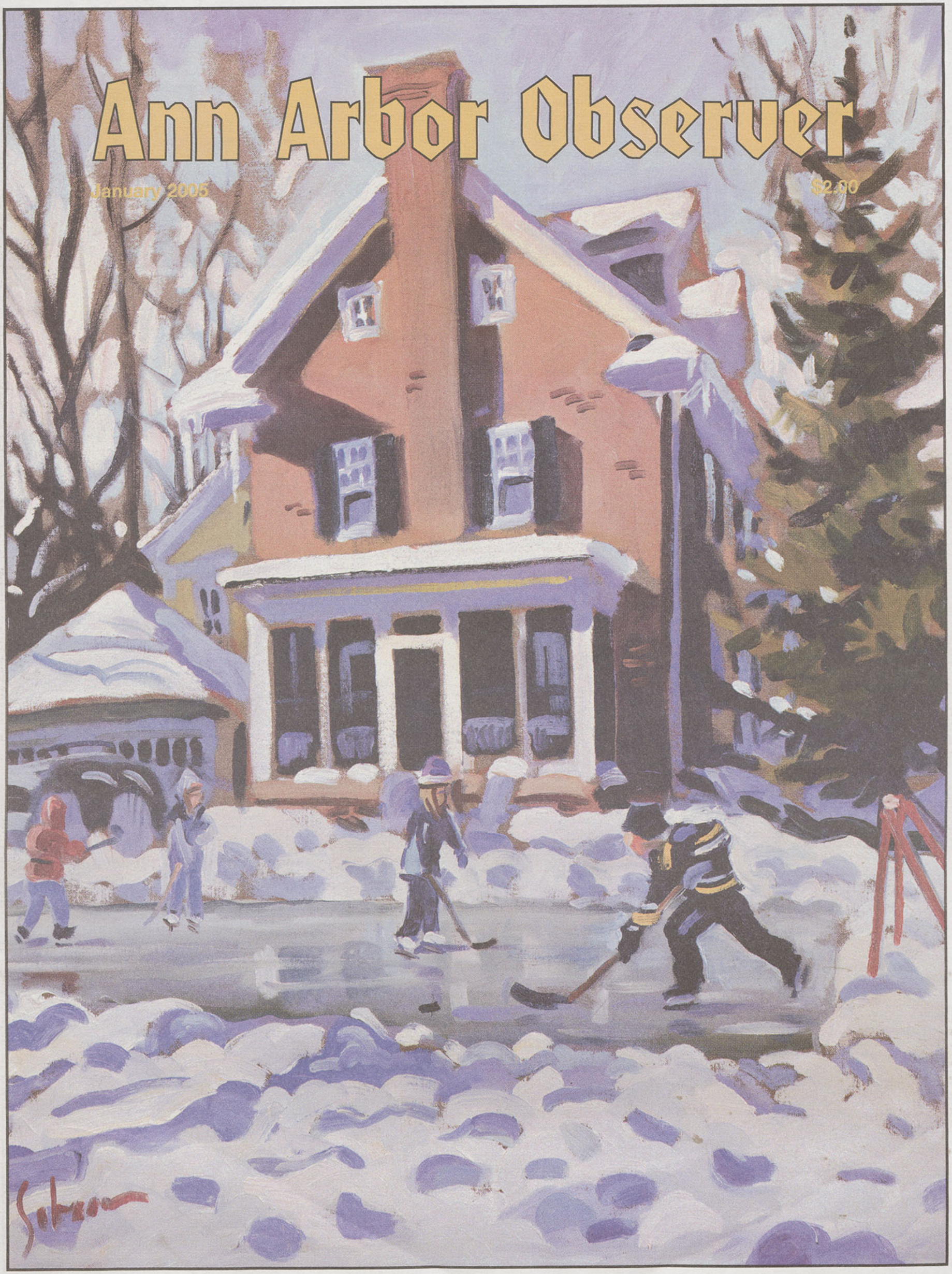

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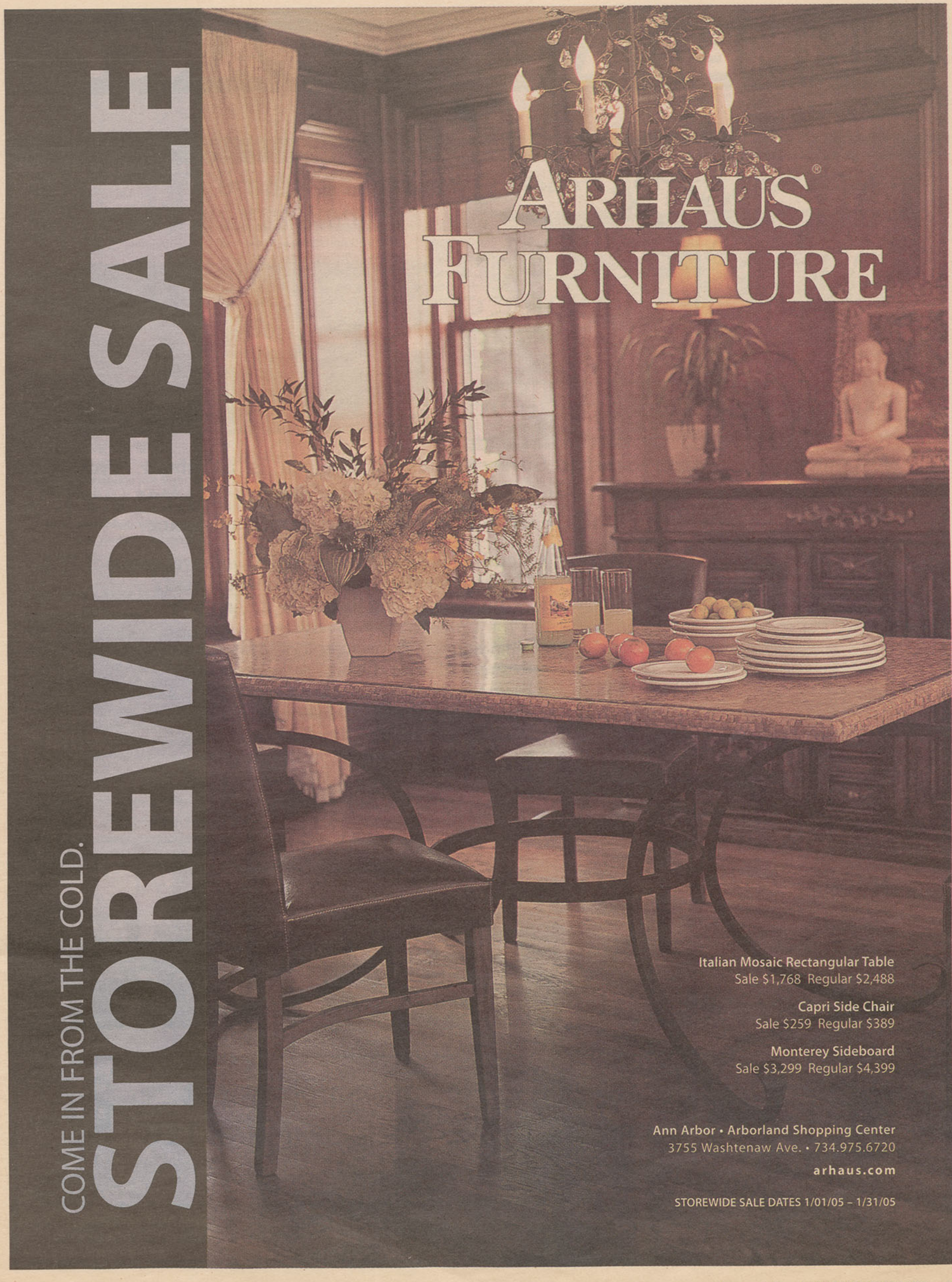
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The Zingerman's Times

Vol: 8 no. 1 ©2005 DSE Inc. January 2005 Printed in Ann Arbor Land of a thousand flavors

Zing news nibbles

Tools for Training

Got good ideas for your staff, but a hard time translating these ideas into practice? Check out what "Training's New Guard" has to say in the two-day Bottom-Line Training seminar, Feb. 7-8, 2005. Call 734.930.1919 for more info, or to request a brochure.

Deli Scores Big in Zagat's

The 2005 Zagat's Guide is out, and Zingerman's Deli was awarded 27 points out of a possible 30. This puts the Deli on par with the best restaurants in the state! Stop by for a reuben and decide for yourself.

Zing Cream Cheese to Be Celebrated in Saveur!

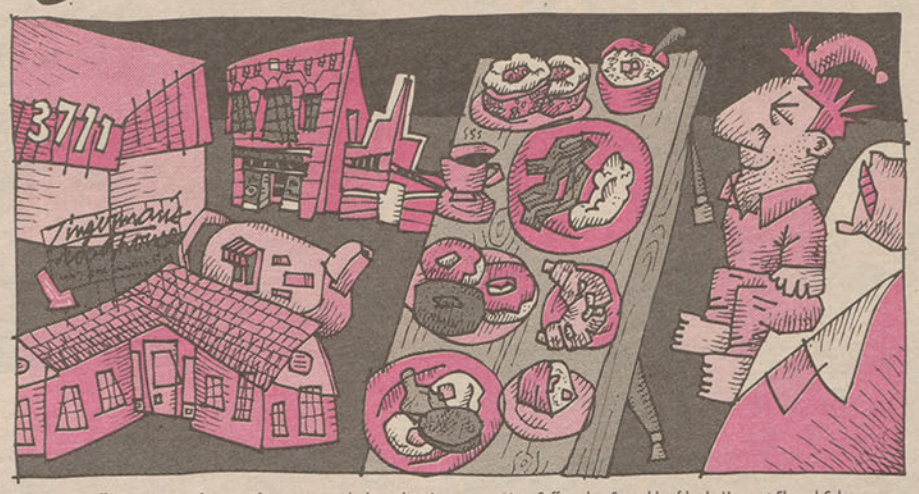
Stay tuned for the April issue of *Saveur* magazine, where the tastemaking editors will be putting together an American cheese issue, and featuring Ann Arbor's very own old-fashioned cream cheese. You can stop by the Creamery at 3723 Plaza Drive (near the Ann Arbor airport).

inside Zingerman's

Zingerman's Coffee Company	422 Detroit St. 945.4711
Zingerman's Roadhouse	2501 Jackson Rd. 663.FOOD
Zingerman's Delicatessen	422 Detroit St. 663.DELI
Zingerman's Bakehouse	3711 Plaza Dr. 761.2095
Zingerman's Catering	422 Detroit St. 663.3400
Zingerman's Events	422 Detroit St. 663.9215
Zingerman's mail order	422 Detroit St. 888.636.8162
ZingTRAIN	PO Box 1837 930.1919
Zingerman's Creamery	3723 Plaza Dr. 929.0500

www.Zingermans.com

breakfast at zingerman's garners rave reviews



Zingerman's offers a new set of reasons for rising on a dank, sunless January morning: Coffeecake. Corned beef hash. Vermont Flannel Cakes.

Ann Arbor is becoming a national breakfast destination. And according to *New York* magazine, the power of a good slice of Zingerman's Bakehouse coffeecake can't be underrated: "There is no better incentive to wake up than this ultrarich, cinnamon-swirled cake, riddled with walnuts... ."

Crowds emerged from Zingerman's Roadhouse, spent, after the debut of the new brunch menu, which features such timeless classics as organic South Carolina Grits from Anson Mills and eggs, Vermont Flannel cakes, and a dish of peppered bacon, oysters and eggs, called a "Hangtown Fry."

One passerby was in tears over her Kentucky Eggs Benedict, claiming that the Newson's aged Kentucky country ham served on top of the gently poached farm eggs was, "as good as any Prosciutto di Parma I've had; I'm beside myself with pride over our country's culinary heritage...and the hand-made hollandaise sauce at the Roadhouse."

The real show-stopper, however, seems to be the homemade donuts, an old Dutch-American recipe made with molasses- and nutmeg-spiked buttermilk batter. They're fried and tossed in Muscovado brown sugar. Sources say they can be nibbled on at the Roadhouse, or bought by the dozen at the Roadshow trailer.

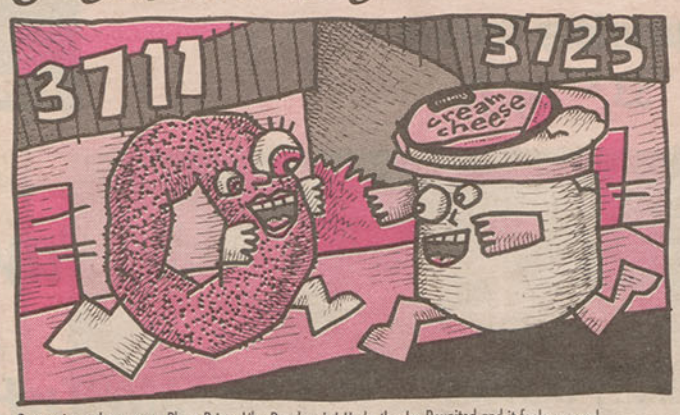
It's rumored that the Deli has been satiating even the hungriest of early risers with the newly expanded breakfast menu. Offerings such as corned beef hash and homemade granola are among the most popular.

Kristie Golightly, celebrated matriarch of the Deli kitchen, swears by the stone-ground organic Irish oatmeal as a breakfast staple: "It helps me to get rid of the mean reds in the morning. And it reminds me of breakfast on Gramma's Detroit pickle farm before I moved to the big city."

The Bakehouse, just a scone's throw from the Ann Arbor Airport, is chock-full of breakfast goodies. "I couldn't live without my almond croissant and Roadhouse Joe," says one loyal local.

Curious fans can stop by the Roadhouse, Deli or Bakehouse to glimpse firsthand how fine a good breakfast can be.

bagels and cream cheese in new geographic bonding



Romantic rendezvous on Plaza Drive: Like Peaches 'n' Herb, they're Reunited and it feels so good... .

Yes, artisan bagels and artisan cream cheese have come closer together in a way that you might never have thought of. Times super sleuths have discovered that these two traditional foods are now being made right here in Ann Arbor, within 500 feet of each other.

The Creamery has moved into town from its initial space in Manchester, so you can now see the cream cheese being made and buy it at the source. Skip a few hundred feet to the South (right) and you can get the traditionally made, really boiled, hand-shaped bagels from Zingerman's Bakehouse as well.

Confused? Call 734.761.2095 for directions.

coffees from zingerman's coffee company

Coffee of the Month—
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Roaster's Pick—
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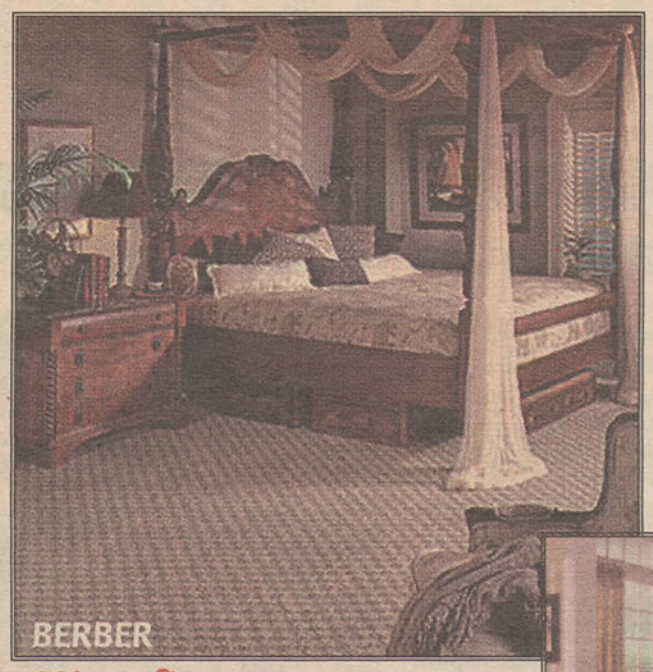

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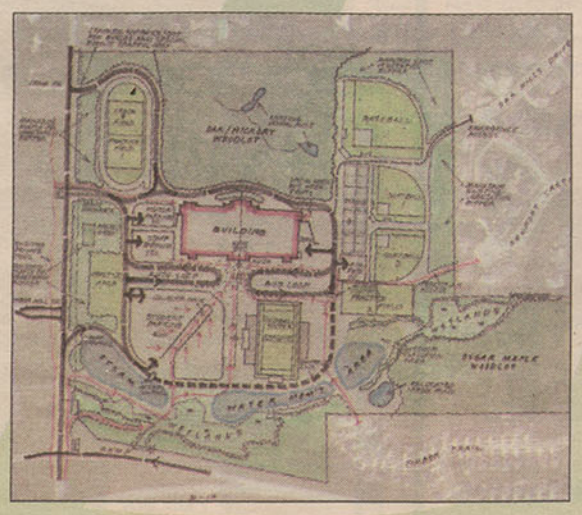
From A to Z... News and Notes from the Ann Arbor Public Schools

Comprehensive Facility Plan
UPDATES *(for a complete list please visit our web site at www.aaps.k12.mi.us)*

1. New Comprehensive High School
- The site plan has been approved by Board of Education, December 8, 2004.
- The Design Development phase for the site & high school building will now be developed.
- Groundbreaking for construction is scheduled for Spring 2005.
- On schedule for Fall 2007 opening.



2. PreSchool
- Site plan for new preschool center previewed by Board of Education, December 8, 2004.
- Two of six satellite center site plans have been developed at Allen and Thurston Elementary Schools.

3. Scarlett Middle School
- NASA science and math curriculum programs initiated. Successful NASA Liftoff, September 2004.
- Student laptop distribution scheduled for 2nd semester.
- Building plan upgrades designed.

4. Technology
- Staff computers and software implementation December 2004/ January 2005.

5. Allen Elementary School
- Site plan previewed by Board of Education, December 8, 2004.
- Preschool satellite site.

6. Haisley Elementary School
- Site plan developed. Scheduled for Board review, January 2005.

7. Thurston Middle School
- Site plan previewed by Board of Education, December 8, 2004.
- Preschool satellite site.

The district will continue to update the community on the Comprehensive Facility Plan projects. Look for the most current updates on our web site.

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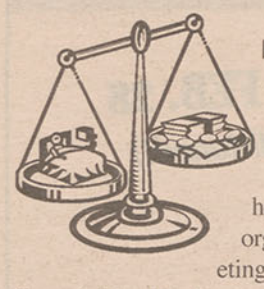
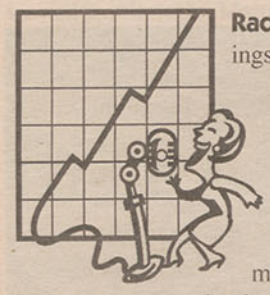
UPFRONT

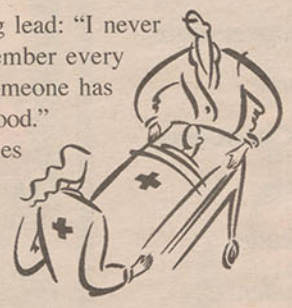


HMO pullback: After overextending themselves in the 1990s, the area's biggest health maintenance organizations are dieting their way back to financial health. Last year M-Care withdrew from three counties in central Michigan, plus the cities of Jackson and Lansing. It blamed "unfavorable provider contracts, high [patient] utilization experience, and limited HMO . . . viability" for its failure to thrive in mid-Michigan. A year earlier, rival Care Choices pulled out of west Michigan after losing $5 million insuring patients. M-Care won't say how many customers it gave up, but Care Choices reported dropping 24,000 members—one-fifth of its total. The downsizing helped both HMOs post profits in 2003: Care Choices earned $7.2 million and M-Care $6.7 million. But premiums are still going up. Jackson-based Consumers Energy reports an 11–13 percent 2005 rate increase for Care Choices and 3–5 percent for M-Care, bringing the two into rough cost parity. M-Care says most groups are seeing single-digit rate increases—but at least one Care Choices plan is going up almost 19 percent this year.



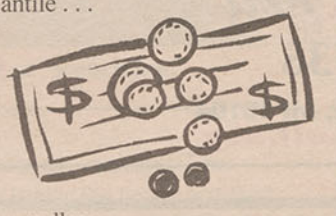
Radio star: The ratings aren't in yet, but the producer of WEMU's *Lynn Rivers Show* thinks the ex-congresswoman has a hit in the making. "The reaction is very strong," says Clark Smith. "We're getting requests for copies of it, for putting it on the website." Rivers interviews guests on timely topics ranging from gay parenting to politics in the pulpit, and she takes call-ins. After getting over some early jitters—she insisted that the first few shows be taped—Rivers now broadcasts live, staying poised even when guests show up late. (The show airs Fridays at 8 a.m.) A direct, take-charge interviewer, she bluntly asked a Muslim cleric whether he believed God talks directly through people running for office. (His answer: "I can't speak for God.") Although several of her shows have had political themes, Rivers, who also teaches government at the U-M and WCC, insists that the program "is guided by my own curiosity." One person whom she's not yet been curious enough about to invite on the show is her replacement in Congress, John Dingell. Normally unflappable, Rivers—who lost to Dingell in a bitter Democratic primary—looks pained at the mention of the rival who precipitated her emergence on the other side of the mike.

Food poisoning: The column by *New York Times* business writer Joe Sharkey had a gripping lead: "I never forget. I remember every single time someone has poisoned my food." Among his tales of toxic dining, Sharkey mentioned an "innocent-looking but nearly lethal BLT that I wolfed down one night in Ann Arbor, Mich., in 1996." So, just where *did* he get that unsavory sandwich? "Man, that was so long ago," Sharkey responded when we asked. "It was a diner or a coffee shop near the university. I simply don't remember the name or exact location, though I have a vivid memory of a long night of shivering and worse in my hotel." Not much help that. So we turned to Cindy Kenyon at the Washtenaw County Department of Environmental Health—if she couldn't spot the source of the bad BLT, we figured she could at least tell us what the chances are of being brought down by one of these bugs in our town. According to Kenyon, as of November the department had received forty-three calls in 2004 from people who thought they had become ill because of something they ate at a restaurant. Only a fraction of those will likely make it through confirmation to the official status of a food-borne illness (FBI) outbreak. According to state health department records, from mid-2002 through mid-2003 there were only seven food-service-related FBIs in Washtenaw County. Alas, no horror stories about specific restaurants could be pried from the discreet Ms. Kenyon.



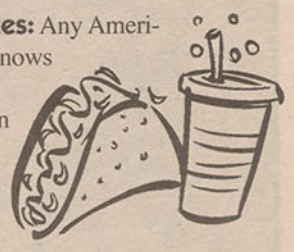
Sound bite: Viewers of *The Ellen DeGeneres Show* saw—or, more accurately, heard—a bit of Ann Arbor on a December show. The background music for a skit that saw Ellen waitressing in a Los Angeles deli was none other than local folk duo Gemini's recorded homage to Ann Arbor's own Zingerman's. While Ellen mimed her orders to her cooks, acting them out in hilarious charade style, Gemini sang in the background: "Let's go get a sandwich at the deli; / I'm sick and tired of peanut butter and jelly. / Something really good to fill my belly; / Let's go get a sandwich at the deli." Between lines they sang the refrain, "Zingerman's, Zingerman's, Zingerman's, Zingerman's." San Slomovits, the song's composer and one-half of the duo (along with his twin brother, Laz), knew the song would be used on the show but didn't know when. By happy coincidence, his wife, Brenda (whose collage of a Galens volunteer was the Observer's December cover), happened to channel-surf across the episode as it aired. San's dental hygienist also saw the skit and recognized the song, later asking him excitedly, "Did you know you were on *The Ellen DeGeneres Show*?"

What does it cost? **$11**—retro Rosie the Riveter paint-by-numbers kit, at Acme Mercantile . . . **$28.95**—Dale of Norway easy-to-knit soft wool scarf kit (includes needles, instructions, and yarn in a zippered tote), at Flying Sheep Yarns . . . **$15**—starter beading class, at Findings . . . **$20.50**—hooded polar fleece baby blanket, from John Leidy . . . **$4.65**—sixteen-bag box of Yogi brand Saint-John's-wort "good mood" tea, at the People's Food Co-op . . . **$2.35**—medium hot chocolate with whipped cream, at Portofino Coffee . . . **$31.99**—basic snow blower tune-up, including spark plugs, at Carpenter Brothers Hardware.



A century ago this month: The news in the *Ann Arbor Daily Argus* during January 1905 seems far off today. Stories brought word of the Russo-Japanese War—one bulletin was headed "Battleship Is Supreme"—and anxieties about Michigan's increasing wolf population. The state bounty on wolves was $15, and some localities added as much as $20 to that—big money in a day when Staebler & Wuerth, a store at 211 South Main, advertised "bosom shirts" for 48¢. A fashion feature described women's clothing "appropriate for both morning and afternoon wear," while one Count de la Vaux, described as a "French aeronaut," predicted that "ballooning is the sport of the future, and in this country you will one day see wealthy men touring in cloudland as they do now on land with automobiles."

One concern we share with that time: that easier communication erodes the art of letter writing. In a piece headlined "Why We Are Poor Letter Writers," Mrs. Frank Leslie complained that "cheap postal facilities have accomplished the ruin of those scriptory morals which the hurry and fret of modern life had already undermined."



Hearing voices: Any American teenager knows that late-night festivities often end with a stop at a Taco Bell drive-up window. The chain's food is always cheap, often hot, and arguably pleasurable (depending on whom you ask). But lately, nocturnal patrons at Taco Bell's Stadium branch have found themselves unexpected recipients of yet another perk—the free-form comments of an uncommonly enthusiastic employee. As a carful of customers pulled away from the order station recently, the young man at the mike spieled, "Please keep your hands in the vehicle at all times, remain seated with your seat belt buckled, and proceed forward at a leisurely pace, and thank you for coming to Taco Bell." Although most patrons seem caught off guard by the high-energy commentary, roars of laughter have been heard from some vehicles as they pulled slowly to the window to pick up their food.

Frieze remembered: One long-ago Ann Arborite called him "one of the most charming men I had ever met." A colleague said that to be in his company was "to receive lessons in grace and courtesy." They were talking about classics professor Henry Simmons Frieze, who joined the U-M faculty in 1854—and whose namesake, the Frieze Building at Huron and State, is currently in danger of being replaced by a new dorm. Frieze's place in U-M history is enlarged by his having served as acting president, where he oversaw the admission of women and the university's first large state legislative appropriation. Crusading grads of the former Ann Arbor High School are joining historic preservationists in trying to get the U-M to preserve the structure, which the university renamed in honor of Frieze sixty-five years after his death. But traces of the gracious professor will survive even if the building doesn't: his beautiful stone residence at 1547 Washtenaw lives on as the Henry Simmons Frieze House. And a sculptural corbel with his facial features looks down over the main entrance to the Law Quad.

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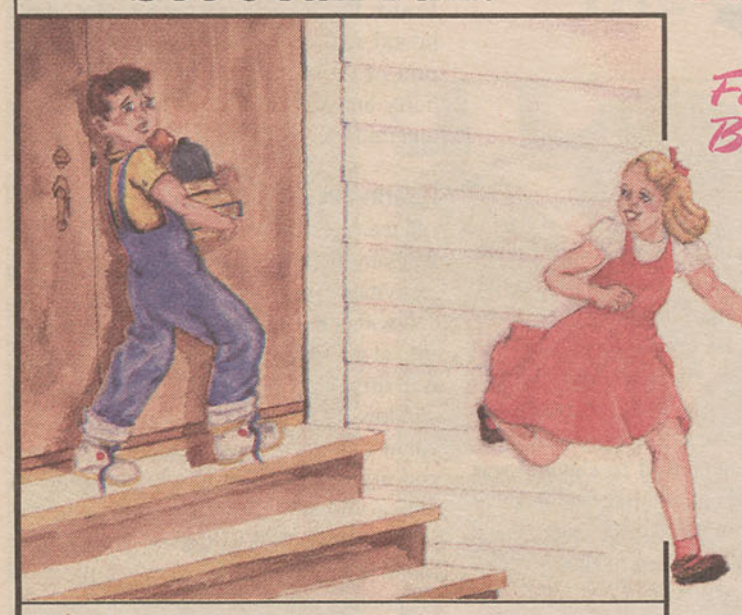
See Jean run.



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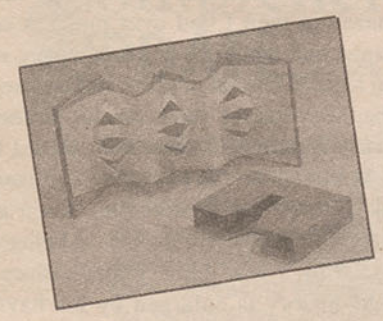
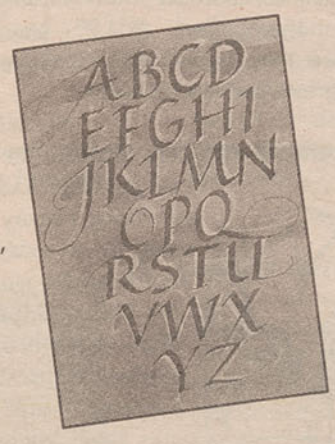
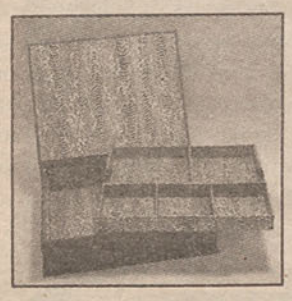


Create!



book arts, bookbinding, paper making, marbling, calligraphy, printmaking, drawing, kid's classes, invitations, lampshades, creative writing, storytelling, letterpress, altered books, book repair, wood engraving, and much more



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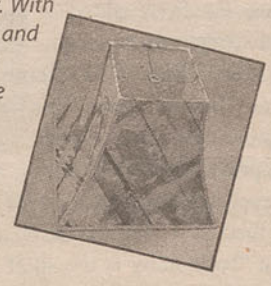

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EDUCATION

Fixing Learning Disabilities

An Ann Arbor company makes some bold claims.

CIBELE VIEIRA

Terry Dunivin and Martin Fletcher work with a student on "sequencing."

Ninety percent of the kids who come through Mindworks Learning, says Terry Dunivin, the company's CEO, show "measurable or meaningful changes in three to four months. That is a short period of time to deal with a problem that can last a lifetime."

Dunivin is also the CEO of Ann Arbor Consultation Services, an outpatient mental health clinic, and he enjoys sharing the story of the unexpected birth of Mindworks. Almost three years ago, he interviewed psychologist Martin Fletcher for a job at the clinic. "This is what you gotta do," Dunivin recalls telling Fletcher during the interview. "But what do you really *like* to do?"

Dunivin says he always asks prospective employees that question—but Fletcher's response was extraordinary. He pulled out testimonial letters from parents whose kids he'd helped with learning disabilities. "The letters were so moving," says Dunivin, "that I literally started crying. That night I couldn't sleep." Within a few months he and Fletcher incorporated Mindworks. To date, some 350 kids with various kinds of learning difficulties have completed the program.

Mindworks' premise is that most learning problems are caused by "processing" difficulties—"how the brain or the mind focuses on things, how it plans, how it organizes, and how it remembers," Dunivin explains. The program draws heavily on the research of psychologist J. P. Das, Martin Fletcher's professor at the University of Alberta. Das developed an approach designed to help students with decision making, evaluation, the ability to focus and resist distraction, big-picture thinking, and organizing information.

Novi mom Rebecca Nall, who took her daughter to Mindworks for help with reading, recalls an activity designed to help her daughter learn to put things in a certain order: Fletcher and Nall played with little plastic animals and then read part of a story about barnyard animals. Afterwards, her daughter was asked to put the animals in the order in which they'd appeared in the book. Both Nall and another mom, Joan Feamster of South Lyon, say that Mindworks helped their children when other efforts failed. "There's a lot of grateful [Mindworks] parents," says Feamster. A typical program includes twenty to thirty sessions, at $125 apiece.

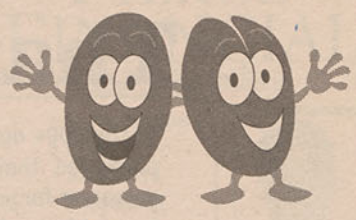
Mindworks' approach appears to run counter to contemporary trends in helping children with learning disabilities. "In the late 1970s and early 1980s, there was a lot of focus paid on underlying processes," says U-M education professor Annemarie Sullivan Palincsar, who specializes in reading and learning. But, she continues, "there just wasn't enough evidence" that improvements in cognitive processing transferred to academic learning. Today, the dominant approach to, say, reading disorders is to try to improve the quality of reading instruction. "Not to impugn [Das's] reputation, but there have been three major panels of experts in the areas of reading in the past five years. His work is not referenced in any of the panels," says Palincsar. She also notes that most of the reviews of Das's work have come from his disciples.

"The letters were so moving," says Dunivin, "that I literally started crying. That night I couldn't sleep." Within a few months he and Fletcher incorporated Mindworks. To date, some 350 kids have completed the program.

Martin Fletcher responds that the earlier therapists tried to improve cognitive processes in isolation, through "drills." "We do not take that approach," he e-mails. "We bridge the newly acquired abilities to the academic tasks." He also provides names of authorities not connected with Das who admire Das's work.

Both Fletcher and Dunivin say that one reason Das's work isn't more widely disseminated is that he wrote primarily for an academic audience. "The thing about scientific breakthroughs is that they sit in journals and they don't get applied unless certain conditions are present," says Fletcher—for example, "you have to have a real charismatic, energetic spokesman out there selling it to people. That hasn't really been going on. But he [Das] is very sound, and the research is peer reviewed. It's real common to have things buried and thirty years later come out and be successful in the marketplace."

Dunivin may be just the "charismatic, energetic spokesman" Das needs. So convinced is he of the power of the Mindworks approach that he's hired a marketing manager, Patrick Novecosky, and is making plans to open another Mindworks clinic in Oakland County. Also in the works: a computer game based on Mindworks theories that he hopes to make available soon to educators.



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WI-FI

Eat, Drink, and Go On-Line

Ann Arbor now boasts more than a dozen cafes, restaurants, or bars where patrons can have a drink or grab a bite while getting some work done on their laptops—or at least pretending to as they surf the web via wireless "wi-fi" networks.

A number of these places even provide Internet access free to customers. Four "indie" coffeehouses—Cappo's in Oak Valley Centre, Portofino Coffee on Stadium, Rendez-Vous Cafe on South University, and Zingerman's Next Door—offer free wi-fi. An employee says Sweetwaters plans to add wi-fi service, as does Cafe Marie on Plymouth. The Ann Arbor–based Espresso Royale Caffe chain also offers free Internet access at its seven local stores. And all three Panera Bread locations in Ann Arbor (and many nationally) offer free wi-fi; Panera even has a toll-free help line and instructional brochures to help the novice connect.

Both Borders cafe locations (Liberty and Arborland) and all four Starbucks are T-Mobile HotSpots; you have to be a T-Mobile subscriber or buy a $9.99 day pass to take advantage of their wireless networks. The Barnes and Noble cafe can accommodate SBC Freedom Link subscribers ($19.95 per month, or two hours for $3.95). Cosi on South State has paid access through Surf and Sip, and several local McDonald's restaurants also are installing paid wayport.com wireless networks.

If you prefer to quaff a beer while working on your monitor tan, the Arena and Conor O'Neill's downtown, Ashley's on State, Fraser's Pub on Packard, and Weber's on Jackson Road all have a full-service menu and liquor to go along with the free 'Net availability.

At the opposite end of the spectrum, the Euphoria Oxygen Bar in Briarwood sells oxygenated water to sip with its free wireless access. Cafe Verde, in the People's Food Co-op on Fourth Avenue, has no plans at this time to add a network—but rumor has it that if you sit in the right spot, you can pirate from Menlo, the software company next door.

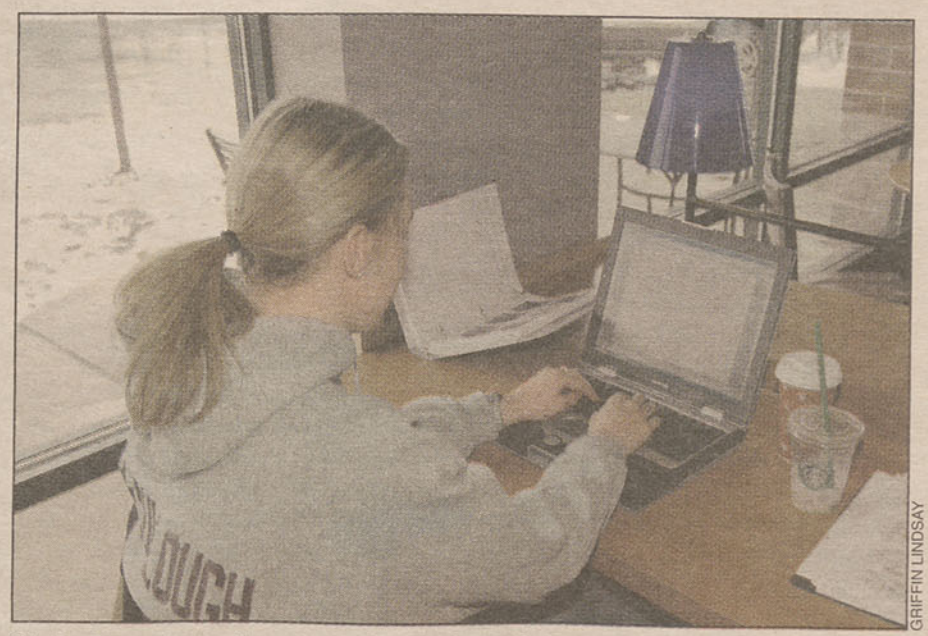
GRIFFIN LINDSAY

GROCERS

Trader Joe's Fan Club

Quiz: should a customer who points out a misspelled sign at Trader Joe's expect (a) a dirty look or (b) a free bottle of wine?

For one local writer and editor, the answer was a very surprising (b). He was equally startled on another occasion when he returned the unused portion of a Chef Pronto precooked chicken entree. The employee to whom he delivered it not only guessed his complaint—too much olive oil—she also volunteered that she thought so, too.



GRIFFIN LINDSAY

Starbucks customers have to pay for wireless web access, but more than fifteen other local coffeehouses, bars, and restaurants give it away free.

GRIFFIN LINDSAY

And so it goes at Trader Joe's, the burgeoning and self-styled "quirky" grocery chain that took over the former Whole Foods space on East Stadium Boulevard. The California-based chain owns more than 200 stores, still mostly on the coasts, and its sales are the envy of the industry: $1,132 per square foot, twice the average for the Meijer-Kroger set. Its business philosophy includes a Darwinian approach to inventory (if something doesn't sell, it disappears; and Trader Joe's private brand accounts for 85 percent of its nonalcoholic products) and, as it did in Ann Arbor, renovating existing spaces rather than building new ones, thus helping to keep the company debt free.

Customers tend to be affluent, health-conscious label readers who delight in a culinary treasure hunt guided by the stores' knowledgeable staffers. When Eleni Kelakos moved from California to Pittsfield Township two and a half years ago, she missed "TJ's" so much that she repeatedly made the long drive to the chain's Farmington Hills store. She also would stock up on canned stuffed grape leaves and cherry preserves when she returned to California for visits. "I'd be packing and saying to myself, 'I guess I really am an addict,'" she recalls.

Denise Grover of Lansing was introduced to Trader Joe's by her daughter and son-in-law, who live in Ann Arbor. "I went and thought, 'Oooh, this place is fun,'" she says. Now she brings a cooler with her when she visits, loading it with frozen fish, stuffed pork, chicken sausages, quiche, and Thai dishes.

Although TJ's sells plenty of junk food, Grover, a health education teacher, stresses that most of the things she buys "have no artificial flavors, no artificial colors or dyes, no preservatives added, and canola oil is used. . . . And where else would you find sesame-honey cashews or the ginger gummy bears?"

SURVIVORS

Old and New in Pittsfield

Dancers save the county's last grange.

When Herman Koenn joined the Pittsfield Union Grange in 1948, its building on Ann Arbor–Saline Road was surrounded by farmland. Today it's surrounded by shopping centers and subdivisions. Yet it's the sole survivor of the twelve farmers' halls that once thrived in Washtenaw County.

The grange movement, which began in 1867, was—and in many ways still is—an important part of farm life. It advocates for the interests of farmers and is a strong promoter of education—the grange was instrumental in the formation of 4-H. It's also been an important social center for farm families. "I used to go there a lot as a kid and see dances," recalls Koenn. "There was a lot of matchmaking and fam-

GRIFFIN LINDSAY

Recycle Your Evergreens!

One-Week Home Collection

Place evergreen trees at the curb by 7 a.m. January 17-21, 2004 on your normal curbside refuse collection day. Please remove all stands, ornaments, lights, tinsel and plastic bags. Collected trees are ground for mulch. W*reaths and evergreen roping* should be placed in the trash because of their plastic and wire backing.

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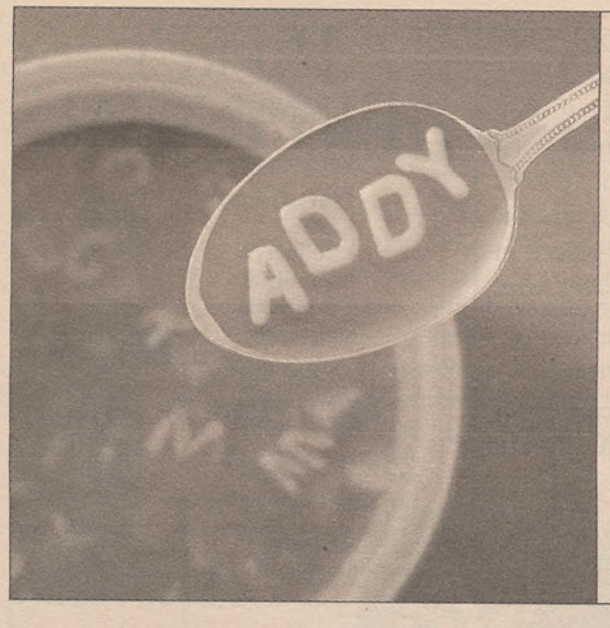

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CIBELE VIEIRA

Once there were a dozen granges in Washtenaw County. Now only the Pittsfield Grange survives.

ily marriages started through the grange. It was quite a meeting place."

Over the years, increased industrialization, combined with the ascendancy of other farming organizations and young people leaving farms, wiped out the membership base of most halls. Statewide, the number of granges has fallen more than 98 percent. But the tradition of dancing at the grange has kept the Pittsfield hall alive. Today it's rented out two or three days a week—and four or five nights—to various folk and traditional dance groups.

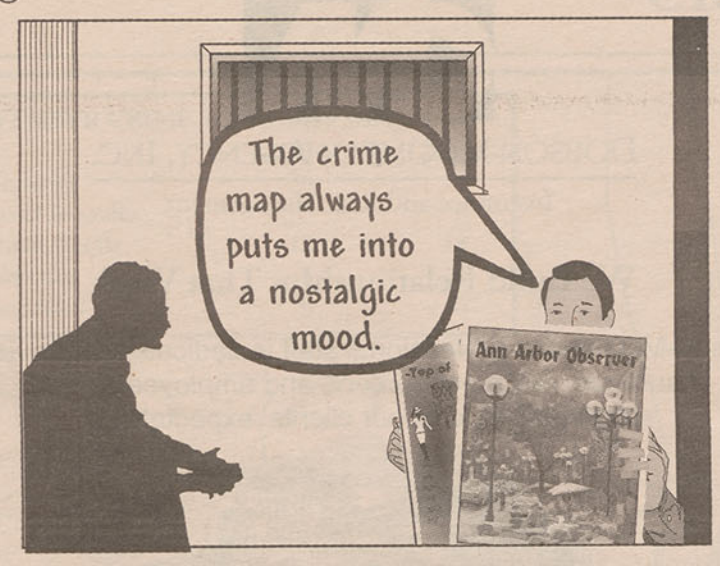
As the grange became the principal venue for the traditional-dance community, some dancers became interested in grange theory and history.

It hosts everything from polka and swing dancing lessons to contra dance parties and the Grand Traditions Vintage Dance Academy's holiday ball (Victorian attire encouraged).

The grange hall "has a great floor," says Helen Welford, who has been the group's secretary for fourteen years. "It's wood, and it's flexible but not too hard." Over the last twenty-five years, as the grange became the principal venue for the traditional-dance community, some dancers became interested in grange theory and history. They eventually signed on as dues-paying members, forging an alliance that is keeping the hall an active, viable part of the community. Welford's husband, Robin Warner, took over the grange presidency from Koenn in 2003.

"I think it was the sheer will of Herman that kept this place open," says Welford. Seeing that the dancers were respectful of the hall and interested in the grange, he "made overtures to the dance community," she says. "Herman's no fool—he saw a lifeline."

LIFE IN ANN ARBOR — Tim Athan



Sharing feelings in Jackson Prison

CIBELE VIEIRA

Calls & Letters

UPS Jack

Last month's Inside Ann Arbor on UPS man Jack Cardwell mistakenly included Sixteen Hands owner Jill Damon on the list of those planning to petition the company. "I would love to convince UPS to reassign him to his downtown route," Damon e-mailed, "but am not involved in a petition drive."

Automobile magazine editor-in-chief Jean Jennings sent us a copy of her own eloquent letter to UPS. "To us, a brown truck without Jack waving from the wheel is nothing but a reminder of a terrible wrong that has happened," Jennings concluded. "Please understand that the voices of a sincere and grateful thousand speak the truth about Jack Cardwell. There is no one like him, unfortunately, and we would like him back."

Ave Maria College

Kate Ernsting e-mailed to say that our article on Tom Monaghan's Ave Maria College ("Buying Souls into Heaven," December) "negotiated expertly between a complicated morass of personalities, agencies, institutions, and other details." But Ernsting pointed out a major error in our statement that Florida-based Ave Maria University instructed the Ypsilanti college to admit and grant financial aid to eleven students who had previously been rejected. "Fr. Roy's lawsuit contends that there were students who were rejected by the Michigan college for admission and then allowed to enroll in Florida, but that was done in the fall term 2003," Ernsting wrote. It was the following spring term when the Michigan school was instructed to grant aid to the eleven Florida students—an order that prompted both Ernsting and PR head Jay McNally to contact the U.S. Department of Education.

"A minor correction that I wish to add is to the statement that I managed the admissions for the college," Ernsting concluded. "I did not manage admissions, although for a time I was interim director of financial aid."

Ten for Two

Peter Andrews, who organized the rally that brought John Lennon to Ann Arbor in December 1971 ("Say You Want a Revolution," December), e-mailed to say that we'd confused two women who helped produce the concert. Karen Young, whom we interviewed and quoted, was on his staff but was not his assistant. His assistant at the time was Suzanne Young.

Rody rides elsewhere

Our December Holiday Guide reported that to the best of Generation owner Karen Rothstein's knowledge, her downtown store was the only local source of inflatable Rody horses. A caller subsequently let us know that they're also available at White Rabbit Toys in Traver Village.

State Street Deli is doing fine

In December's Marketplace Changes column, the ten-year Follow-Up mistakenly listed State Street Deli & Sundries as closed. "The business is strong and healthy," said owner Basim Abdelnour in a phone call. "The building [777 Eisenhower] lost ABN AMRO, but ProQuest is coming in. We plan on being there for a long time."

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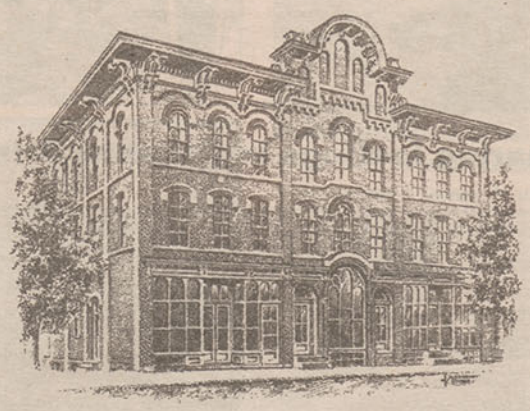

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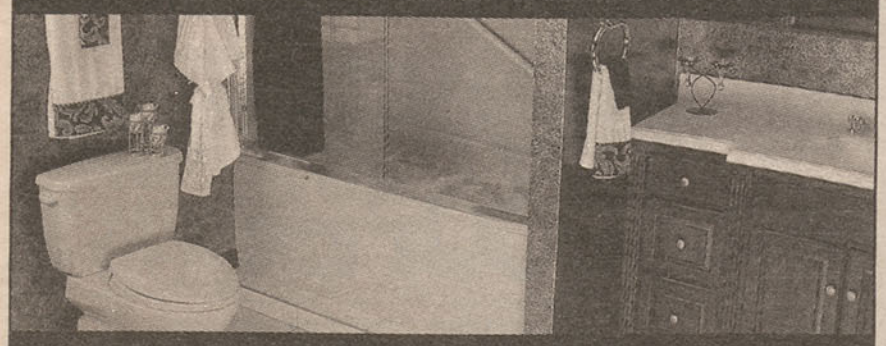

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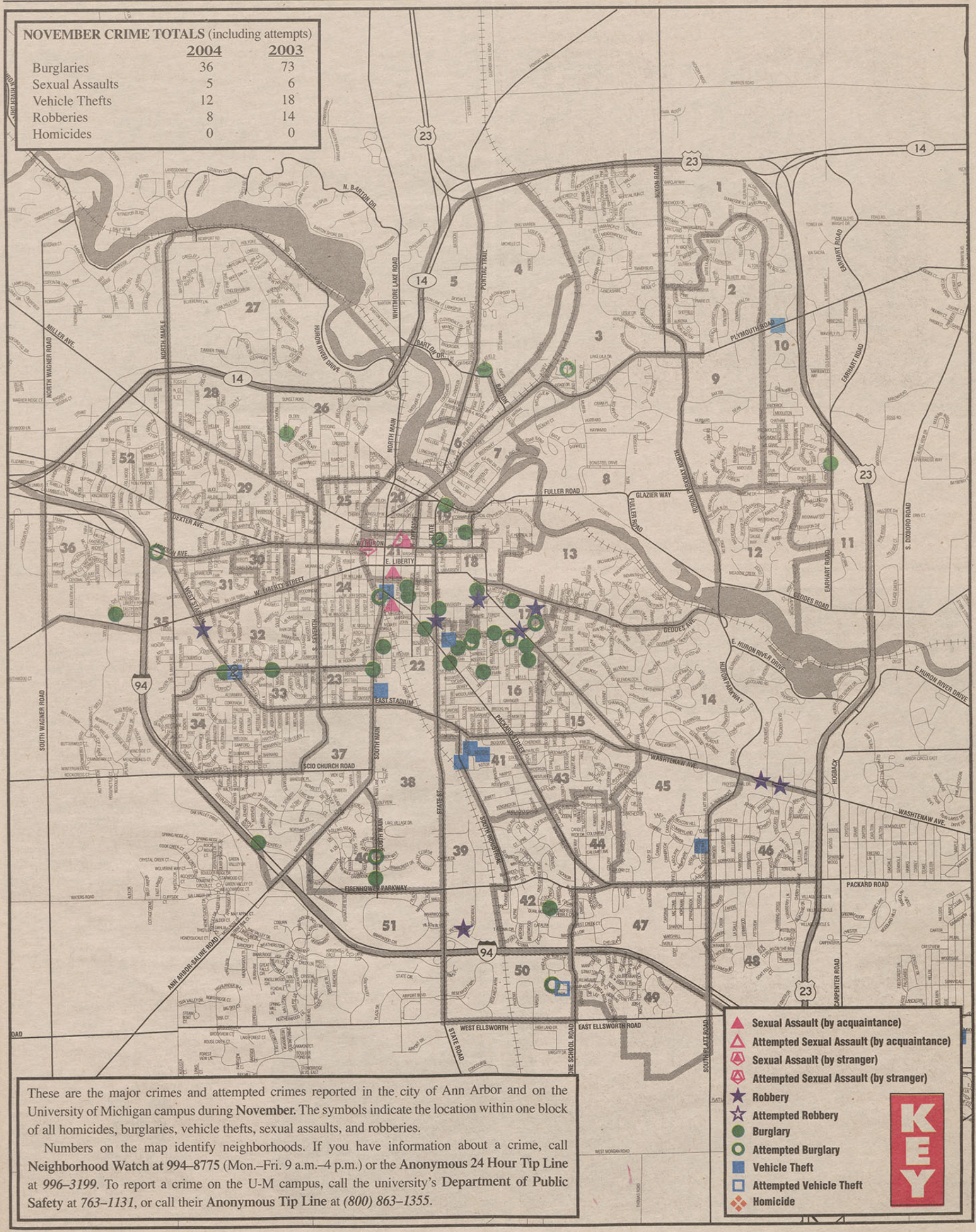
CRIME MAP

NOVEMBER CRIME TOTALS (including attempts)

	2004	2003
Burglaries	36	73
Sexual Assaults	5	6
Vehicle Thefts	12	18
Robberies	8	14
Homicides	0	0



These are the major crimes and attempted crimes reported in the city of Ann Arbor and on the University of Michigan campus during **November.** The symbols indicate the location within one block of all homicides, burglaries, vehicle thefts, sexual assaults, and robberies.

Numbers on the map identify neighborhoods. If you have information about a crime, call **Neighborhood Watch at 994–8775** (Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–4 p.m.) or the **Anonymous 24 Hour Tip Line** at *996–3199*. To report a crime on the U-M campus, call the university's **Department of Public Safety** at *763–1131*, or call their **Anonymous Tip Line** at *(800) 863–1355*.

KEY

- Sexual Assault (by acquaintance)
- Attempted Sexual Assault (by acquaintance)
- Sexual Assault (by stranger)
- Attempted Sexual Assault (by stranger)
- Robbery
- Attempted Robbery
- Burglary
- Attempted Burglary
- Vehicle Theft
- Attempted Vehicle Theft
- Homicide

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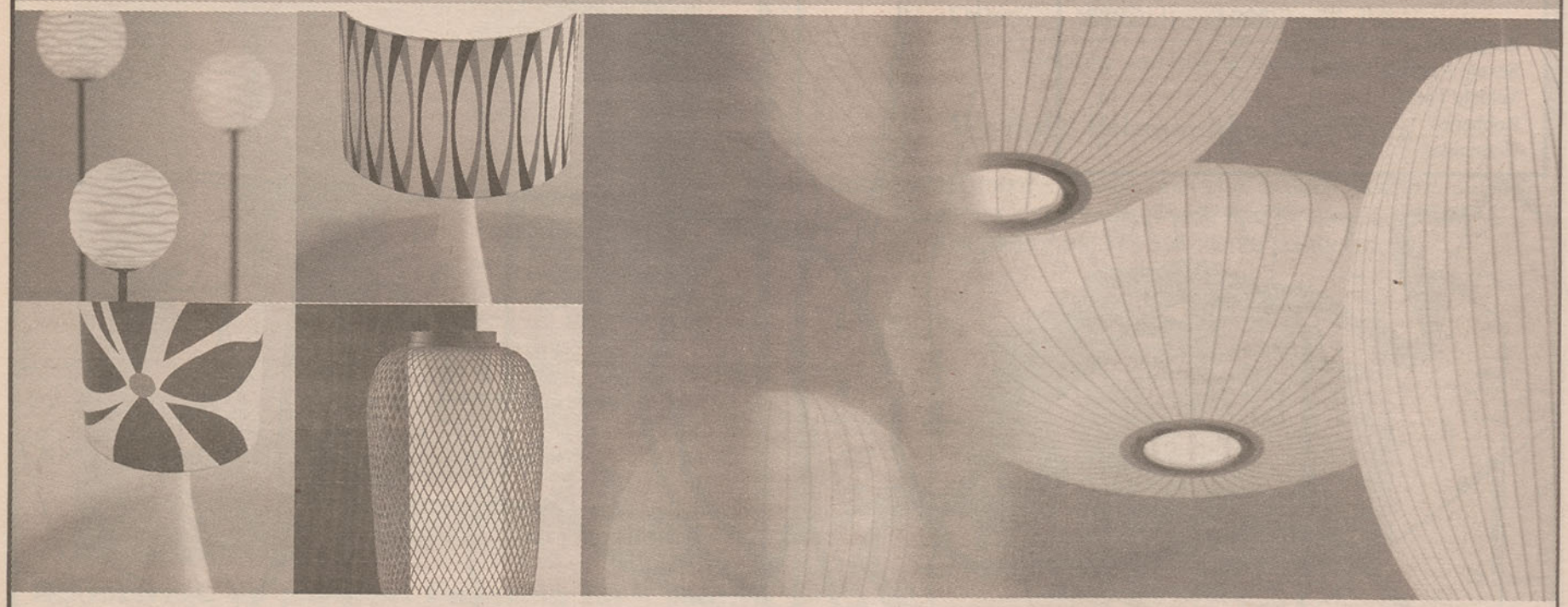

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GRIFFIN LINDSAY

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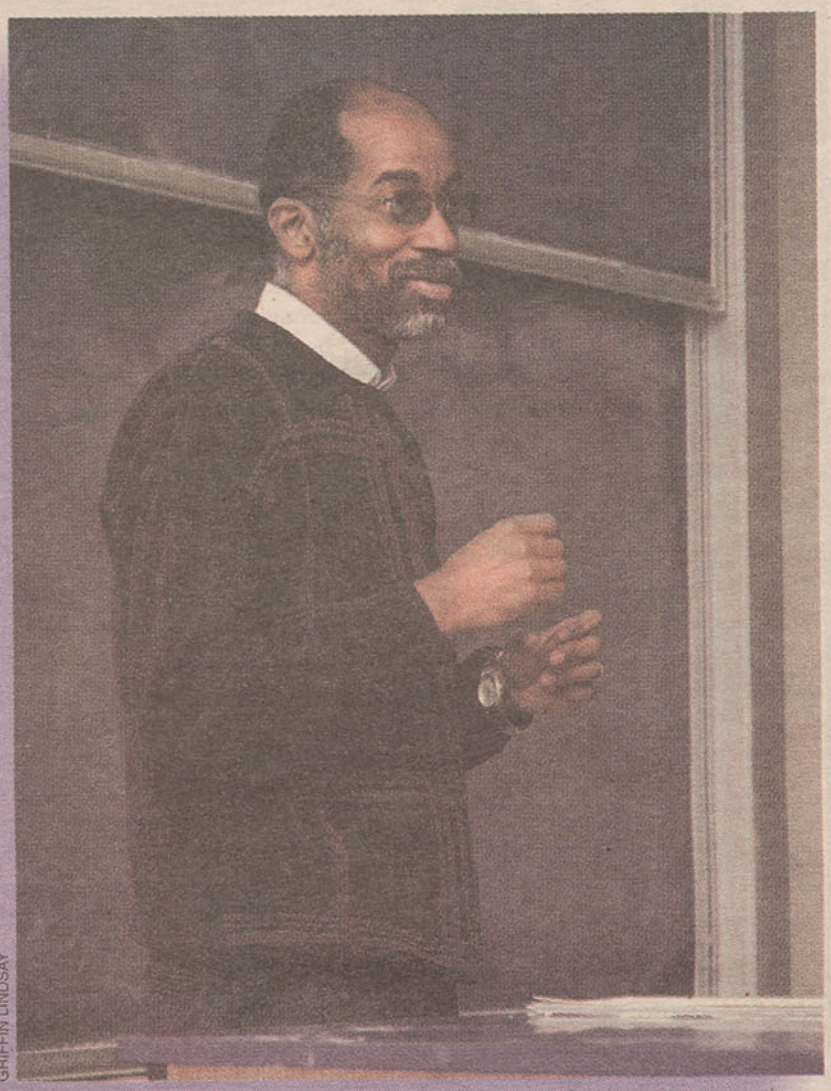

GRIFFIN LINDSAY

David Williams

Closing America's health-care gap

"If we look back to 1950, there was a racial pattern of health. Blacks had higher rates of mortality than whites did—and if we look at the data for 2000, we still see the persistence of this gap. This gap has not really changed much over time," says David Williams, a U-M sociology professor and one of the country's leading experts on inequities in health care.

Speaking with a low-voice eloquence, spiced by a Caribbean accent, Williams points out that racial disparities in health care account for the early deaths of some 100,000 African Americans a year. "That's almost three hundred a day," he says. "That is as if a jet took off from Metro Airport every day and crashed and everybody on board died. That is the magnitude of the racial discrepancy in health, and I can assure that Congress would have hearings and would move heaven and earth to find out what is going wrong with the jetliner that was leading to that level of premature deaths in the country."

Trained as a Seventh-day Adventist minister, Williams, fifty, brings a missionary's zeal to his self-appointed task of spreading the word about the disturbing gaps in American health care, which he tracks by both economics and race. Much in demand as a speaker, he's served on high-level government advisory panels and in many academic organizations.

In contrast, Williams's own parents never went to high school; they worked at various blue-collar jobs on the island of St. Lucia. They provided a strong religious foundation for their family and made sure that the children had books. All five of their children graduated from college, and three earned doctorates.

Surveys have shown that most Americans, black and white, are unaware of the links between race and health.

Williams himself graduated from an Adventist college in Trinidad and came to the United States, where he earned both Master of Divinity and Master of Public Health degrees, plus an M.A. and Ph.D. in sociology at the U-M. He taught at Yale before returning to Ann Arbor in 1992.

He and his wife, Opal, a nurse practitioner, are the parents of two teenage daughters. Residents of Pittsfield Township, they belong to a Seventh-day Adventist church in Ypsilanti. In the Adventist perspective, he says, good health "is not peripheral to divinity. It's part of your service to God." He notes that Adventists, who are enjoined not to smoke or drink, are "one of the healthiest groups in the United States."

Williams's doctoral dissertation was on inequities in health care in Tecumseh, Michigan. Even in that virtually all-white community, he found that people who were better educated and better paid were healthier than their more marginalized neighbors. From there, he went on to examine the intersection of race and health. He developed a questionnaire that subtly probed to find the extent of racial discrimination felt by African Americans. It has since become a widely used tool in assessing stress levels, which contribute to poor health.

Looking at the impact of race and economics on health care, Williams finds troubling situations that defy easy answers. For example, research shows that college-educated blacks experience more health problems than do their white counterparts. Part of the reason may be that even middle-class African Americans are more likely to have grown up poor, and so lacked good health care in childhood. Another is that middle-class African Americans are more likely than middle-class whites to live in borderline or unsafe neighborhoods, a condition that both contributes to stress and reduces the likelihood that they will walk for exercise.

Closing the health-care gap, Williams says, will require strong political leadership: "If we define it as a problem, if we define it as a priority, these are not impossible things for us to fix." But he emphasizes the need to get the word out. Surveys have shown that most Americans, black and white, are unaware of the links between race and health. Williams is so busy that he turns down four out of five speaking engagements he's offered, but the ones he does take, combined with research and teaching, make his schedule airtight. Asked for an interview, he had exactly one opening in all of November.

It helps that Williams is "very organized, very persistent, very methodical at what he does," says Wayne State sociologist Leon Wilson, who attended college in Trinidad with Williams. Even then, Wilson remembers, "there was absolutely no doubt that David was destined to be one of the stars of that institution."

Williams says that he finds his work "intrinsically interesting. I enjoy what I do." But above all else, "what drives me is my own sense of religious faith—that what my purpose is on this earth is to make things better, and to serve others. Life is about service."

—Eve Silberman

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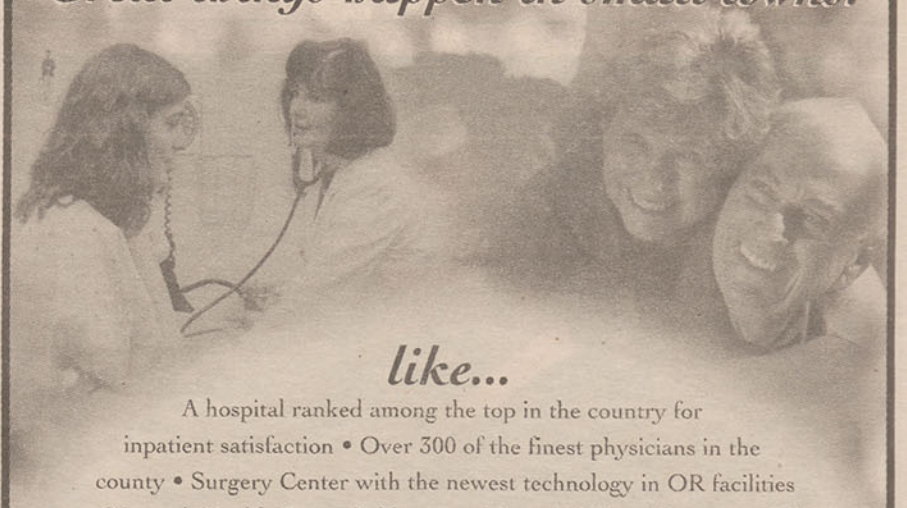

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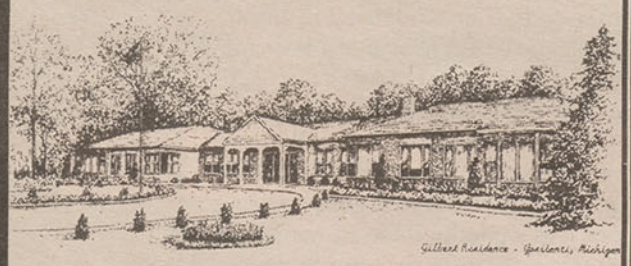

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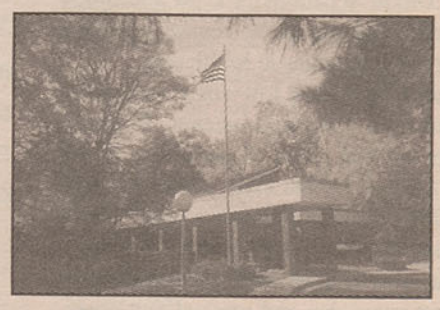

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The city isn't keeping its biggest public housing complex safe—so tenants are taking matters into their own hands.

The Fight for Miller Manor

by Kevin L. Walker

Tenants at Miller Manor aren't counting on authorities to solve their problems. Front row: Martin Strange, Laura Satir, Deborah Gibson, Jane French. Back row: Al Schnaidt, Rodney Paschal.

When Evelyn Walther was found strangled in her apartment in Miller Manor in May 2002, it was shocking news. Most people still thought of the west-side public housing tower as a peaceful residence for senior citizens.

That image, however, was badly outdated. It's been a long time since seniors dominated the population at Miller Manor. Since the 1980s, more and more residents have been younger people with various disabilities. Miller Manor also houses recovering drug addicts, the mentally ill, and the formerly homeless.

For at least the last decade, trespassing and illegal drug activity at Miller Manor have been chronic concerns. Police are called to the building frequently. Drug dealers have periodically set up shop there, and a few residents have been assaulted. These problems have persisted even though an Ann Arbor police detective lives in the building and the Ann Arbor Housing Commission, which functions as the building's landlord, has an office there.

Since Walther's death, residents have organized a Neighborhood Watch, and they say that things have started to improve. But some of them say the AAHC, the courts, and even Ann Arbor's liberal attitudes are part of the problem.

Rough times

In the 1960s, when Ann Arbor started building federally subsidized housing, the city wanted to minimize the problems often associated with large public housing complexes. "The emphasis in dealing with HUD [the federal housing agency] was to have scattered sites as much as possible," says Bruce Laidlaw, city attorney from 1974 to 1992. Today the AAHC manages 355 low-income rental units in sixty-seven buildings around the city. Qualified residents pay 30 percent of their income as rent.

Located on Miller Avenue overlooking West Park, Miller Manor is by far the biggest residence in the system. With ninety-nine units, the seven-story building accounts for more than a quarter of the city's public housing stock.

When it opened in 1971, Miller Manor was envisioned strictly as a residence for seniors. But today it has become just what the city tried to avoid—a large public-housing high-rise with many vulnerable residents, some troubled and some trouble-making. In recent years seniors have made up as little as one-fifth of all residents.

Why the change? One reason is that affordable housing options for seniors have increased. But the city's subsidized public housing picture has changed as well. As far back as the 1970s, landlords lobbied Congress to broaden eligibility for subsidized senior housing. In response, federal regulations now mandate that low-income housing like Miller Manor must be open to people with disabilities.

Seniors started avoiding Miller Manor as its reputation worsened. The year 2002 dramatically highlighted how much the place had changed. In May, Walther, who was seventy-eight, was found strangled in her seventh-floor apartment. Ira Savage—a friend of another resident's caregiver—was charged with her murder. In July 2003 he was found not guilty of murder but was convicted of stealing items from her apartment.

Also in 2002, Paul Kazarinoff, a Miller Manor resident, was accused of abducting an eleven-year-old girl by forcing her into his car. The girl quickly escaped. Kazarinoff was found guilty of kidnapping and sentenced to life in prison. His appeal of the conviction is pending.

Other alleged incidents are less clear cut. One current resident, who won't give her name, says that in 2002 a resident threatened her life, but she contends that the police didn't take the matter seriously and that nothing was done.

Police reports confirm two other incidents that year. One resident was beaten up in an elevator but did not press charges, perhaps because that resident, who had mental illness, feared retribution. Another former resident says he was assaulted that November while leaving the apartment of another resident. This man says that he wanted to press charges but that the police never followed up. Police, however, say it was the resident who didn't take further action. The alleged victim has since been evicted from Miller Manor and is living in a tent. But the alleged assailant in both of these assaults is still living in the building.

The man is no longer a threat, according to Betsy Lindsley, executive director of the AAHC. "We have worked effectively with supportive services to help that resident with his behavioral and anger-management issues," she says. The AAHC's mission, she adds, "is to house people rather than evict them; so we will work with our residents, if they are willing to work with us, to address concerns, so that we can preserve their housing, while maintaining a safe environment for the community as a whole."

Screening out risks

Keeping Miller Manor safe is not easy. First, the landlords must weed out trouble-makers. Yet Kazarinoff was able to move into Miller Manor despite a history of criminal sexual conduct in other states. Lindsley says that at the time the AAHC didn't have access to out-of-state and FBI records that would have revealed his criminal past.

Today, Lindsley says, the AAHC has full access to criminal records, including the Michigan Public Sex Offender Registry. Kazarinoff's case "certainly heightened the awareness of screening, using the sex offender registry," Lindsley says. "We're screening convicted drug users and drug dealers out."

But there's a caveat: "Even if there is a conviction," she says, "if a person has gone through rehab, fair-housing law requires us to consider this a disability and consider them for housing." The same goes for illicit drug users and dealers who've never been convicted. Under the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act, a drug addict or alcoholic in recovery and not currently using illegal drugs can claim a disability. And under federal law, the housing commission is not allowed to ask prospective tenants what their disabilities are.

Those applicants who do get into Miller Manor are "its greatest attribute," says Lindsley. In recent years residents have initiated several building improvements with projects financed by a HUD grant, including a greenhouse and an art studio. Also, resident Jane French has painted striking murals in the elevator lobbies and on the fifth floor.

These and other features help mitigate the building's institutional atmosphere. Although it's well tended, Miller Manor can look seedy in spots. Many residents use the balconies attached to their cramped apartments as cluttered, open-air storage closets. And recently signs were posted in the elevators warning that anyone caught urinating there would be evicted—as would any tenant whose guest was found urinating. Lindsley says the signs were posted after puddles were found in the elevators. She says she doesn't know whether they were left by pets, residents, or visitors.

Easy access

Just how easy it is to trespass at Miller Manor became apparent in the Evelyn Walther case. Ira Savage was found to have taken Walther's TV, but he claimed that he hadn't killed her—he testified that he'd simply heard she was dead from people in the parking lot, gone into the building, and helped himself to her belongings.

Miller Manor has a buzzer system operated by residents' key cards, but it's in chronic disrepair. When the front door is opened, it remains ajar to give residents with disabilities time to enter—and also gives strangers plenty of

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The Fight for Miller Manor

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time to slip in. And there's no security person to stop them.

But even if the front door were more secure, it wouldn't keep out all the trouble. Police detective Khurum Sheikh, who moved into an apartment in Miller Manor in 1999 as part of a city program to place cops in public housing, says trespassing "is partly a function of the people who are allowed to be in Miller Manor. Many of the residents have come from shelters or rehab centers, and they bring many 'undesirables' with them. Most of the people who do not belong in the building are allowed in by residents."

Laura Satir, a forty-three-year-old resident who volunteers in the greenhouse, agrees, saying that recently homeless residents still have "friends out there on the streets. There are people who've bothered us that don't live here." She says these intruders sometimes persuade residents to let them stay as guests. Other residents covertly take in a roommate in exchange for money, she says, even though there's a rule limiting visitors' stays to one week.

> It's not clear how convicted sexual predator Paul Kazarinoff was approved for residency—but the landlord vows it's not going to happen again.

If nonresidents cause trouble, police can read them a warning not to trespass. Their photos are then taken and posted on a bulletin board in the Miller Manor lobby. In early December there were ten such photos on the board. But the postings don't seem to be keeping many intruders out. "Every other day someone's coming in that's been read the trespass" warning, says Satir.

Some of the trespassers frighten Suzanna Royce, a shy young redhead. She's a five-year resident of Miller Manor but is trying to move out.

"There's a lot of people hanging around on the second floor right now," Royce says. She describes them as "young, scary guys" who try to coerce residents into letting them stay in their apartments.

"I'm not sure that the housing commission wants to understand what's going on," Royce says. "I think the housing commission needs to get the people out of the building that don't belong here. I think we're a bit overwhelmed here at the moment in terms of security."

The cop down the hall

But Lindsley says her office is also overwhelmed—it's understaffed and has a

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PHOTOS J. ADRIA

Housing commission executive director Betsy Lindsley says she doesn't have the money or the staff to make sure tenants follow all the rules.

tight budget. There are far from enough employees to enforce lease compliance in all of the city's housing units, she says, and HUD provides very little money for support services and drug prevention. In fact, she says, the Bush administration just eliminated the funding AAHC was using for antidrug efforts.

With all the security problems, Miller Manor at least has the presence of police detective Sheikh.

"People feel more secure with him here," says French, the artist, who is an eight-year Miller Manor resident. "People trust his authority. Several people who've been troublemakers have been removed. I definitely think it's safer with him here."

But other residents disagree. "I don't feel that his being here is very helpful," says one longtime resident. "It's evident that his presence doesn't deter any crime. There are all kinds of things he could be doing that he isn't."

Sheikh is required to volunteer a certain number of hours at Miller Manor and in exchange pays a reduced rent. Sheikh says he doesn't always have his police radio or handgun on him, so "it is important that residents know to not expect me to act as a police officer while off duty in the building." Instead, he says, he is there to answer police-related questions and "to be socially active with the residents." He says he's hosted pizza parties and taken residents to see plays. He's also detained suspects until on-duty police arrive to arrest them or read them trespass notices.

Lindsley describes Sheikh's policing role at the Manor as limited, and she acknowledges that residents disagree on his effectiveness. The police officer in residence at Baker Commons, another city housing unit, is "more proactive," she says.

"Khurum prefers to do the talking, the mediation, that kind of stuff," Lindsley says. "I think he's very committed to the community at Miller Manor."

Hurdles for eviction

In April 1990 federal agents raided public housing units on South Maple Road and evicted six residents without any notice or hearing. The tenants fought the evictions and were allowed to return under an agreement with the U.S. attorney. Later that year a federal judge ruled that public housing residents being evicted for drug-related criminal activity must be given notice and a hearing.

Lindsley says that a

Tenant Jane French's murals add a touch of color and dignity to the drab institutional milieu.

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The Fight for Miller Manor

continued

public housing landlord cannot simply terminate a lease, or even decline to renew it. The only way to remove a tenant is to prove in court that there is just cause for an eviction—namely, activity that constitutes a "material breach" of the lease. With drug activity, getting sufficient evidence is key to a successful eviction. But it isn't easy to find witnesses with direct knowledge of drug dealing who are willing to testify at eviction hearings, Lindsley says—some tenants are afraid to come forward for fear of retaliation.

"If we believe we have a major drug-dealing situation happening, we alert LAWNET [the Livingston and Washtenaw Narcotics Enforcement Team] to see if they can get a 'buy' in the building or resident's apartment," she says. "It takes time to get police-documented evidence for evictions. The slowness of the process gives the appearance that [the police or the AAHC] isn't doing anything about the problem."

Khurum Sheikh, the resident police officer, says eradicating drug dealing in the building is "regrettably unrealistic."

A current case in point: according to Satir, there's a drug user in a sixth-floor apartment who's attracting dealers. Satir, a member of the Manor's residents' council, says that group first complained to the AAHC last winter about the activity.

Lindsley says the commission is "aware that we continue to have what I would call a problem tenant on the sixth floor, who we believe brings in drug users or dealers." But, she says, there is no direct evidence of drug buys, and the tenant will not open her door when officers come by—and the housing commission can't compel her to talk to the police.

"It is not enough to 'believe' that this resident has 'friends' who might be dealing or using," Lindsley says. "Unless she or they are caught doing it, we will not be successful in achieving an eviction in court."

Sheikh, the police detective, says "there certainly is drug dealing in Miller Manor, and both the housing commission and the police do what they can to reduce it." But he says it is "regrettably unrealistic to imagine totally eradicating it given the clientele Miller Manor houses," which includes recovering drug addicts. "The general pattern is that a resident allows a drug

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dealer to sell out of their apartment in exchange for drugs or money, or just to alleviate loneliness because they're mentally ill and this 'excitement' is better than simply chain-smoking all alone."

Police have conducted "numerous drug raids" at the building, Sheikh says, and usually "small amounts of cocaine and marijuana are seized." But then, he complains, "the resident claims he or she had no idea what was going on. And when they go to court, they are so obviously in need of mental health services and easily manipulated, and they don't need to be in the streets. So the judge allows them to stay at Miller Manor if they promise to be good. Then, when the judge has seen the same person about three times, they finally agree to evict them."

Posting photos of people who have been warned not to trespass again hasn't stopped them from reentering the building.

Though Sheikh's charges of judicial leniency cannot be substantiated, it's a fact that there have been only a few successful drug-related evictions in recent years at Miller Manor. Eight-year resident Martin Strange, an incisive speaker who uses a wheelchair, says that one of the building's drug dens was next door to his apartment.

"It was difficult to take them to court and get them evicted," says Strange, a member of the residents' council. It took two years to get one woman out of Miller Manor, even though, while testifying at the Evelyn Walther murder trial, she'd implicated herself as an active drug user. Lindsley says that's because the AAHC didn't want to move to evict her until the murder trial was over.

In Strange's opinion, the overriding problem is that Ann Arbor authorities are too reluctant to evict people for dealing drugs. "I thought the feds had this one-strike policy on drugs," he says. "That's far from the case. We have to fight tooth and nail." Strange blames the local court system for this problem—but he also blames Ann Arbor residents, who he says are "too liberal" for the city to get tough on drugs.

In Ypsilanti authorities say they don't put up with drug activity, alcohol abuse, and violence by public housing tenants. The Ypsilanti Housing Commission has a "one strike" policy: one violation can trigger an eviction action. "The legal precedents are on the side of the commission to evict," says Walter Norris, executive director of the Ypsilanti commission. Most evictions proceed quickly, he says, though some can be time-consuming and costly.

Eric Temple, administrative specialist for the commission, says, "We do not tolerate drug or criminal activity. We will evict you immediately. A lot of people, once they know that, will move out to avoid having their stuff put out on the curb—or the embarrassment."

Residents fight back

When it comes to the problems at Miller Manor, there's always been a lot of finger-pointing. Tired of that game, some residents are getting more active in protecting themselves.

Walther's death in 2002 was a wake-up call. Soon after, residents formed the Neighborhood Watch group. "We can't rely on the police to make Miller Manor safe," says Strange.

Strange says that drug dealing these days isn't as big a problem as it used to be. And police officer Michael Montgomery, whose beat includes west-side public housing, agrees: "I wouldn't say it's a major problem. There's some users there. There's some trespassers there."

Lindsley, who's been with the housing commission for ten years, seems resigned, even fatalistic, about the problems at Miller Manor. She says that the level of safety for residents has gone up and down over the years with no clear pattern. She acknowledges Miller Manor has some problems but points to positive things too: "Residents care about each other, and selectively look after each other."

As for tightening security at the front door, Lindsley says a full-time security person is not affordable and "never will be." She also says she can't do anything about fixing the buzzer and intercom system, blaming a contractor that she says can't be fired because of a city contract. As for the timed door, she says it's required under the Americans with Disabilities Act. After 5 p.m., when the housing commission staff go home, residents are pretty much on their own, she says.

For their part, tenants seem increasingly aware that they can't rely on the city to solve Miller Manor's problems.

"A lot of people were intimidated by drug dealers in the past," says Strange. Now, however, some are standing up to them—and Strange credits the recent reduction in drug activity to the residents' determination. "We are making an attempt to take our neighborhood back," he says. "It's getting better here. It really is." ■

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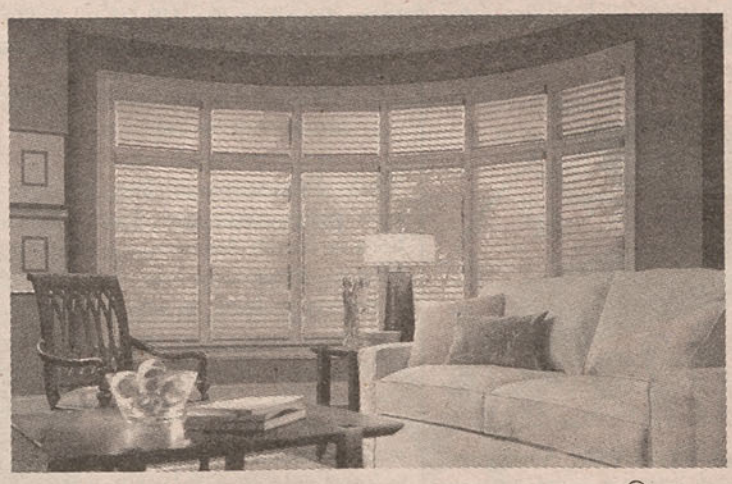

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italian events at Zingerman's Delicatessen

Special Dinner with Northern Italian Zing!
Thursday, Jan. 13th, 7 pm

Join us for a family-style feast created by chef Rodger, featuring 15 Northern Italian dishes, including his homemade ravioli. This special event is designed to connect the people who produce the food products with those who cook it, serve it, and eat it! $50 per person, RSVP to 663-3400

Italian Cheese with Carlos, Cheese Guy
Monday, Jan. 17th, 7 pm
Zingerman's Deli $20

The map of Italian cheeses is rich and intriguing! Carlos will be your guide, and your taste buds will tour these remarkable creations: from indulgent, creamy La Tur to hard, Pecorinos (Toscano, Romano, di Pienza) to melt-in-your-mouth Fontina Val D'Aosta. Be ready for a whirlwind adventure! Carlos will also perform the fascinating and artistic feat of splitting open a 66-lb. wheel Parmagiano Reggiano—and you'll have the treat of tasting this masterpiece moments after its been cracked.

Italian Olive Oils, Vinegars, Sauces and Pasta with Allison
Wednesday, Jan. 26th, 7 pm
Zingerman's Deli $20

Come 'n learn some about basic ingredients of traditional Italian peasant cuisine. Allison will explore artisan olive oils, vinegars, sauces and pastas. Find out how they're made and why they're sure to make your dishes special. You'll taste a variety of these gems and learn how to fashion some simple savory Italian feasts of your own!

Zingerman's one 'n' only: oil from peranzana olives makes american debut

After a much-publicized search, it seems that Zingerman's has found the perfect oil to call its own. This olive oil is pressed and packed for Zingerman's by Marina Colonna, at her farm, the Masseria Bosco Pontoni, in the Molise region of Italy. It's rumored that the Colonnas are an ancient family, one that can trace its roots back to the time of some of the earliest popes.

Some say that this is a match made in heaven...or nearby Rome, to be exact. "Like so many facets in our lives that are meant to last, this affair has been a slow burn. The relationship began in the late '80s, but it was only last year that Zingerman's proposed that Marina's oil wear the Zing label, so to speak," one insider intimated.

This particular oil is made from Peranzana olives, which are said to be a pretty rare find; according to some, this is the only straight bottling of these pressed olives to be found in the US (the signature Colonna oil is pressed from four types of olives). Zingerman's forager Ari Weinzweig notes: "This olive has a very interesting flavor; round, nice, full, with a good little kick of a *pizzica* (or pepperiness). It'd be great for just about everything—salads, soups, seafood, steaks, pasta, bruschetta, really good beans or sautéed greens with garlic."

Marina Colonna's luscious oils deliver the Italian countryside to Ann Arbor.

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oranges & lemons

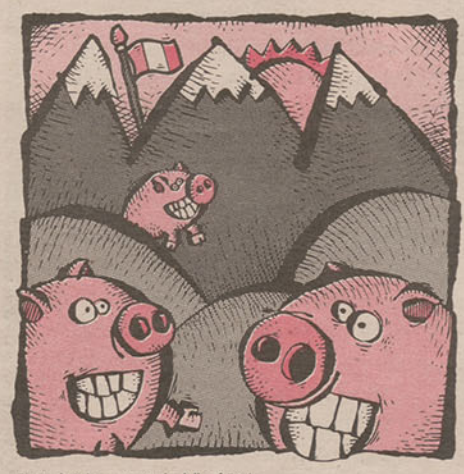
Marina's signature oil is blended from four olive varietals, each pressed before ripe and decanted, unfiltered, into gorgeous emerald Etruscan-style amphorae.

Zingerman's has long celebrated the Colonna fruit oils, which are made from pressed, whole fruits (unlike their less expensive counterparts, which simply add the citrus essence to the olive oil). *Granverde* is pressed from lemons, and the *Arancia* is made from Sicilian oranges. Both the orange and lemon oils are excellently balanced between the olive and citrus. Sprinkled over fish, or used in baking, they bring an already-good recipe to divine.

san daniele: the other prosciutto

While Prosciutto di Parma deservedly gets great attention from food lovers here in North America, its more delicate cousin—Prosciutto di San Daniele—is quietly making its way to fame.

This ham comes from the not-so-touristed Friuli region of northern Italy, located in the foothills of the Alps. Like Prosciutto di Parma, the San Daniele ham starts with top-notch fresh pork legs. The meat is hand rubbed with sea salt, then cured for about three months at fairly cold temperatures. This is followed by time in more moderately cooled rooms. All told the hams mature for a minimum of 400 days. Throughout the aging breezes from the Alps meet humid winds coming up from the Adriatic Sea, creating rapid rises and falls in humidity. This unique microclimate contributes to the uniquely sweet flavor of the finished ham.



Fruity, frolicking pigs in the hills of Friuli.

Sources say that production volume is only about 20 percent of that in Parma, and most is consumed locally. "Unlike Parma ham, its flavor is fruity, slightly sweet, and uniquely clean," claims avid ham consumer Kim Kunoff. "I like this ham best on its own, at room temperature. The texture is supple, pleasing. It also makes a super nice polenta topping. It's typical in Friuli to toss pasta with this ham, cream and poppy seeds. It's simple and delicious."

il molino olive oil: what the future tastes like

It's been rumored that the future of olive oil can be tasted at Zingerman's, in Il Molino. This is one of the first oils on the market that's made only after the pits have been removed from the olives.

Traditionally, olive oil has always been made exerting pressure on a mash that's from the entire olive—both the fruit and the pit are crushed and the resulting paste is gently pressed or processed to remove the oil from the solids and the natural water in the olive.

"This may not be 'traditional,' but the result is a cleaner, purer olive flavor," conceded olive oil aficionado Pino Grigio. "The smell alone sold me—it has a beautiful aroma—lush, olivey, hinting strongly (but not overpoweringly) of green grass."

To glimpse the future yourself, visit the Deli and ask for a taste.

CIBELE VIEIRA

THE Free LUNCH CLUB

Two Observer restaurant reviewers tell all.

by Margaret Yang and Elizabeth Méricas

People always had the same reactions when they found out I was a restaurant critic. First was a wide-eyed "How did you get *that* job?" Then came "What's your favorite place to eat in Ann Arbor?"

The answer to the second question is easy. After reviewing over fifty restaurants and sampling many more, I have a short list of favorites. Pacific Rim is my top choice, the place I always want to go for my birthday. I take my husband to Mac's for date night. For tasty and cheap ethnic cuisine, I adore Ayse's, BeWon, and Tuptim.

As for how I got the job, that's a longer answer. I have always been a "foodie." Conversations with my friends tend to revolve around food, cooking, and dining out. We can be sitting around a table laden with delicious fare, and all we can talk about is where else—and what else—we've eaten. I am a writer by trade, so the combination was a natural.

When the job came open at the Observer in late 1999, I auditioned by writing some sample reviews. The editor, John Hilton, liked my reviews and those of Elizabeth Méricas, so he hired us both. I think he was secretly hoping one of us would quit, leaving the other to have the job full time. However, Elizabeth and I shared the position amicably for over four years, until the spring of 2004, when we resigned at the same time. By then I felt as if I'd eaten everything everywhere, and I was becoming jaded about the whole restaurant experience. Luckily there was no shortage of candidates for the position, and the Observer's new reviewer, Bix Engels, is worldly without being weary.

The mechanics of reviewing soon became routine. First, Elizabeth and I would talk over possible places to review. Any new restaurants in town? What hasn't been reviewed in a while? What looks interesting? After settling on our choices, we'd get approval from our editor (or a veto, in which case we'd start over). Then I'd corral willing friends, make my visits, and write up copious notes the split second I got home. A few days before deadline, I wrote the review by cutting out half of my notes. My allotted length ranged from 600 to 900 words: not a lot to summarize an entire restaurant. I never, ever, was able to write about all the food I ate. Then Elizabeth and I got together and started the process all over.

I ate three times at each restaurant: one weekend dinner, one weeknight dinner, and one lunch. I usually brought along my husband and one other couple. (I found that tasting more than four entrees at a meal became overwhelming, but any fewer than that didn't give me a wide enough sample.) And yes, the Observer paid for all of our meals, but our bar tabs were our own.

Along with the review and my expense receipts, I was also required to turn in a copy of the menu. Paul Schwankl, our obsessive copy editor, needed it to double-check spellings and prices. Since I couldn't ask for a copy of the menu without calling attention to myself, I became adept at stealing them.

I had the world's best job, and I gave it up. —Margaret Yang

CIBELE VIEIRA

Since I couldn't ask for a copy of the menu . . . I became adept at stealing them.

At first I felt bad about taking the restaurant's property, and tried to get a paper take-out menu if I could. After the first year, I became bold. The menu from Palio is nine by fifteen inches, coated in rigid plastic. I shoved that baby into my oversize purse without even checking to see whether the waiter was looking. I heard later that Paul showed the enormous menu to the entire office, pronouncing me the menu-stealing champion. Even now, months later, it feels odd to walk out of a restaurant without a copy of the menu hidden somewhere on my person.

Most of the time the waitstaff were too busy to notice the missing menus—or if they did notice, they didn't care. But sometimes the thefts caused embarrassing problems.

At the Earle the hostess seated us and gave us four menus, one of which promptly went into my purse. When the waitress arrived at our table, she apologized over and over for the missing menu, and then hustled off to get me a new one. I tried to make up for that one with a large tip.

At the Moveable Feast (now Daniel's on Liberty), the menus came in impressive leather folders with a tassel. Even I hesitated to steal something that large and expensive, so I carefully slipped the paper menu out of its folder and handed the waitress back a closed, empty folder when placing my order. I thought I'd gotten away with it until the dessert menus came, in a smaller—but no less impressive—folder. I slipped a dessert menu into my purse too, and kept the empty folder closed while I ordered my crème brûlée.

The waitress collected our dessert menus—and then handed those same menus to the couple at the next table. I watched in horror as the wife questioned her empty folder, and the waitress whipped her head around to glare at me. I acted innocent and looked the other way, and she didn't call me on it.

Writing reviews of my favorite places was easy: praise them to the skies, tell everyone to go, and hope they aren't too crowded the next time you want to visit. I never wasted my time reviewing truly bad restaurants, but critiquing the hit-or-miss places could be agonizing, as I struggled to get the tone just right while telling the truth as I saw it. Worst of all were restaurants where a supernice owner and accommodating staff presided over mediocre food. It broke my heart to have to say negative things when the staff were working so hard and obviously trying their best. But I owed it to my readers not to lie to them.

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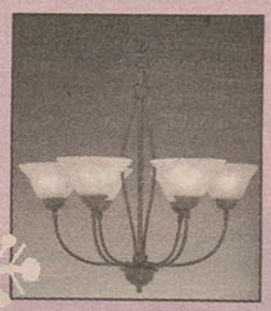

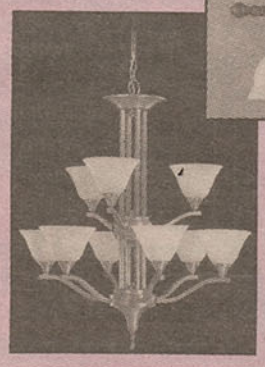

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THE Free LUNCH CLUB

continued

always provoked angry letters to the Observer. I'm pretty sure that my name is on a Wanted poster in Bridgewater, after the furor I caused when I criticized the town's only restaurant. The most amazing response I ever received, though, was a two-page letter right after my debut review, complaining that I'd been too *positive*. The letter was well written and terribly logical, and it listed—in excruciating detail—why I was not qualified to do my job. Apparently the letter writer thought that the restaurant I'd praised really sucked. I was so grateful that Elizabeth was home that day, because I whined at her over the phone for an hour until she was able to help me see the funny side of the situation. Where else would a food critic be criticized for being too nice?

Usually, the opposite happened: the restaurant, thrilled with the free publicity, would frame the review and put it on the wall in the lobby for all to see. About six months after I'd reviewed Faz's Hello Pizza, I met owner Faz Husain at a school function (our sons attend the same school). Faz quickly figured out who I was and thanked me profusely for the review I'd written. The review was not all positive—loved the pizza, disliked the curry. But Faz knows people, and understands that any publicity is good publicity.

He also knew, better than I did, just how seriously some people take restaurant reviews. I told him that my reaction was ultimately just one person's opinion. "Oh, you would think it came from the pen of God," Faz countered, "the way people react."

Faz was one of the few owners who matched my face to my name. I generally worked hard at staying anonymous. I always made reservations under a friend's name, and while dining, I shared my friends' food as discreetly as possible.

I used my own name on all my reviews, but that actually provided additional cover: my husband is Chinese and I am not. Nobody expected a white woman to be named Yang. I also frequently brought my young children along to test the kids' menu. When I did, the staff saw just a mother, not a restaurant critic.

Besides, my bulky diaper bag was a great place to hide a stolen menu.

—*M.Y.*

I don't want to sound like a whiner, but being a food critic really is work.

—Elizabeth Méricas

Margaret was lucky. For me, remaining anonymous in restaurants was a serious challenge, because I had two identify-

ing traits that made me an easy mark. Like clockwork, I sneezed seven times in a row immediately after eating a meal. (I'll get back to that later.) Since I'm not the prissy type—my sneezes have meat on their bones—I always worried they would give me away. And people are always taking notice of my husband, Dean, who bears an uncanny resemblance to Dick Purtan, the veteran Detroit radio personality.

Not a week goes by without what Dean calls a "sighting," whether it is at DTW by the skycaps or while he's standing in line at the grocery store. Once, while we were dining, a man came over to our table and asked him to autograph a menu for his wife. When Dean told him he wasn't Dick Purtan, the man pointed to a nearby table and said, "Everyone at that table thinks you are, so go ahead and sign it."

As it turned out, Dean's similarity to Purtan ended up being a really effective cover. Whenever we went out together, everyone looked at Dean instead of me.

If I had questions about the restaurant or anything I'd eaten, I'd usually telephone after finishing all my visits. But a couple of times, because of language barriers, I ended up talking to an owner in person (I found we were able to understand each other better face to face). That was how I met the delightful and gracious co-owner of Totoro, Jane Kim. Since then, it's been impossible for me to go to Totoro without attracting attention—she treats me as if I were the Iron Chef walking in the door. When I was still writing reviews, I sometimes worried that she thought I expected preferred treatment. However, after watching her at work, I've come to realize that Mrs. Kim just has a knack for making people feel special.

Everyone loves to dine gratis—which is, of course, the best part about reviewing restaurants. Friends happily juggled their schedules to come along, and there's no greater joy than being able to treat so many so often. For a while there, I think we actually kept monthly food expenses down for one couple. Others were asked once and never again because they had too many food quirks, or didn't understand that sharing was an absolute prerequisite to any invitation. The friend who wolfed down his entire meal without giving me a chance to sample anything found himself exiled from the Free Lunch Club.

For a reviewer, of course, there's no free lunch. You have to stay focused on the food, even in the midst of table banter and joke telling. While others merrily ate and told funny stories, I often lost track of conversations or missed the tail end of a joke because I was busy watching a nearby server or making mental notes about ingredients and food textures.

Often I would know after the first visit that I had a real gem. Eve and Cafe Zola were like that, and I looked forward to going there again. At the other extreme were the restaurants Margaret and I deemed unfit even to write about. The one that comes to mind was a restaurant called UpSouth at

CIBELE VIEIRA

Dean "Dick Purtan" Méricas provided useful cover for his incognito wife.

While others merrily ate and told funny stories, I often lost track of conversations or missed the tail end of a joke because I was busy watching a nearby server or making mental notes about ingredients and food textures.

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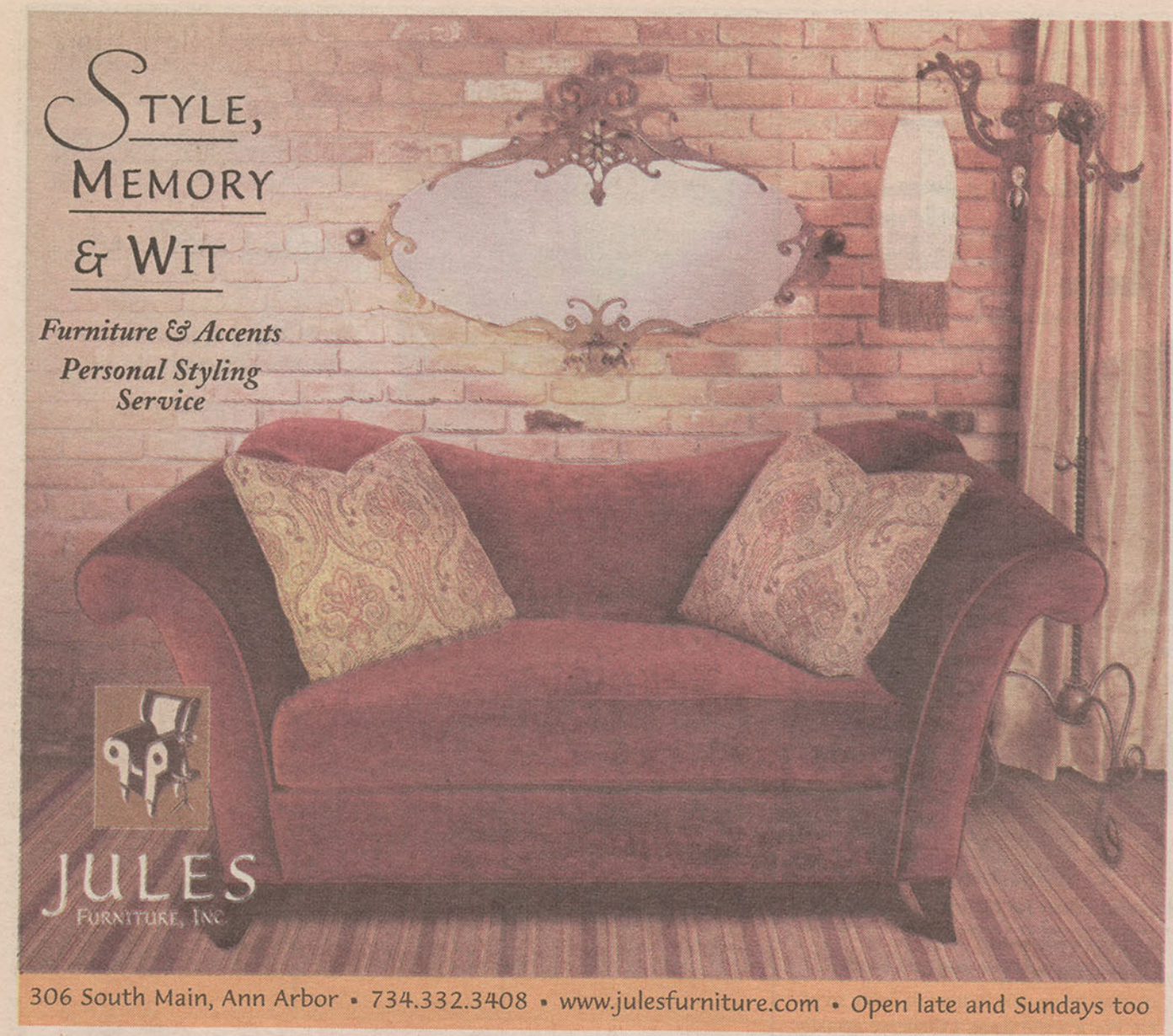

the fabled unlucky-restaurant northeast corner of Liberty and Stadium. (A bank is there now.) With each visit, telltale signs of impending failure told me I was wasting my employer's money. One night, despite mostly empty tables, we waited over an hour for dinner because the server forgot to put the order into the computer. When asked what beers were available, he told us to go ask the bartender. But it was the food that made me call my editor and say UpSouth needed to change its name to UpChuck. We canceled the review, and the restaurant closed a few months later. Margaret had similar experiences at Transylvania, Main Street Coney & Grill, and Saline's Maple Tree. She and I both wanted to give a turn in the column to a deserving restaurant, not one that was about to put its stove up for sale.

Food Criticism 101 is not offered by any college, and, so far, no one has written *Restaurant Reviewing for Dummies*. In the first six months of the job, ordering too much food almost killed me, especially at D'Amato's. I thought I needed to try

With each visit, telltale signs of impending failure told me I was wasting my employer's money. But it was the food that made me call my editor and say UpSouth needed to change its name to UpChuck.

everything on the menu: appetizers, soups, salads, and generous main courses that filled plates the size of Hummer hubcaps. By the time we'd finished our entrees, our group had amassed such a cache of doggie bags that our server said, "I'm assuming you won't be having dessert." I still remember her alarmed look as we started rattling off our dessert choices. Later, when we stood up to leave, we found walking completely erect impossible. We waddled out doubled over, arms around our expanded waists—probably not the look D'Amato's wanted from customers departing the restaurant.

Beyond wearing loose-fitting clothes when you're doing marathon eating, knowing the proper attire is crucial for dining in certain restaurants. For instance, I always wear black when I go to an Italian place. In my experience, outside of a tar stain, a tomato-sauce stain is the hardest to remove. A delicious asparagus-and-

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sun-dried-tomato pizza once left me with a stain that looked strangely like the image on the Shroud of Turin. Dark clothing is also essential for eating any kind of barbecue, especially pulled pork or ribs. It could be worse—if you ever get invited to a Louisiana crayfish boil, my advice is to wear the clothes you put aside for painting the house.

I have changed the way I dine out because of what I learned on the job. For one thing, when I find a restaurant I like, I go there often. Regulars always get better service and better tables—and, let's face it, we like it when our waiter recognizes us. Also, there is an art to reading a menu—rarely is a chef a master of all twenty or so dishes listed. Beyond the best restaurants, approach with caution any dish containing a jangle of confusing ingredients: cilantro, mangoes, raisins, and turnips really may not go that well together. And all ingredients are best in their season—that's why the better restaurants change their menus so frequently.

The day of the week can also make a difference. When reviewing, I always tried a place at least once on a Friday or Saturday night to see how service fared under pressure, but I really prefer weekday evenings. Noise levels are down, and everyone has more time to pay attention to the food—and to you.

Sometime into my third year of critiquing restaurants, I underwent a barrage of allergy tests. My habit of sneezing in restaurants—seven explosions followed by watery eyes and nonstop sniffles—was driving me crazy. The verdict: I was allergic to yeast. My doctor might as well have said "air" as he rattled off everything that contains yeast: bread, mushrooms, cheese, wine, and salad dressing. When he finished, all I could say was "But I'm a food critic!" More important, I just plain love food and, yes, wine.

For several months I thought I would have to give up my job, but I eventually learned that I could live with this curse by taking allergy shots and not piling on too many yeast-laden dishes in one day. I still sneeze in restaurants, but no longer in sevens—more like twos and threes.

I finally quit simply because I was tired of writing about food. I knew I was in trouble when, after four years of avoiding standard, boring clichés, I found myself describing foods as "mouthwatering" and "finger-licking." I struggled with the decision, knowing I had a job people covet. Friends tried to talk me out of quitting; some even resorted to begging. I think a few are still annoyed with me—if only because they miss the free food.

As I write this, though, I know I was a food critic before I became one for hire, and I'm still one today. Margaret says she feels the same way. I continue to think of myself as a keen observer of cuisine—even now, when I go to a restaurant, I can't stop critiquing. Though my pen is no longer scrawling notes in my brain as I chew, I still want to be buried with a fork in my hand.

—*E.M.*

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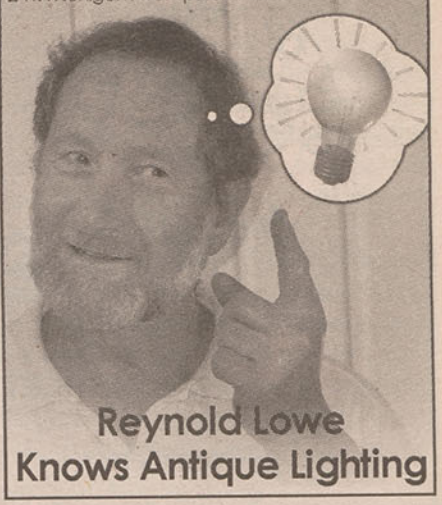
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STREETS

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When a snowfall of four inches or more occurs, street snow plowing begins and the City Administrator may declare that a "snow emergency" is in effect. Plowing is done on all public streets and City-owned property; however, all schools and privately owned areas provide for their own de-icing and plowing. Citizens are advised to remove cars from curbside parking to allow for effective street plowing.

When a "snow emergency" is in effect, illegally parked vehicles may be ticketed and towed.

The City snow desk is staffed when a snow emergency is in effect. The snow desk tracks the location of plows throughout the City and provides information to the public about the plowing progress. You may reach the snow desk at 994-2359.

* **On days having odd-numbered dates, vehicles are prohibited from parking on the side of the street having even-numbered street addresses**– in order to allow plows to clear the even-numbered side of the street. Parking is permitted on the side of the street with odd-numbered addresses in legal spaces.

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SIDEWALKS

When there is a snow event in Ann Arbor, the City depends on its citizens to be helpful, responsible, and aware of the need to remove all snow and ice from the public sidewalks including walks and ramps leading to a cross walk.

During the winter months, many Ann Arbor residents (including children walking to school and the physically challenged) need to be able to safely use the public sidewalks. This means that all snow and ice should be removed from the entire constructed width enabling people of all ages and physical conditions to have access to clean pedestrian walkways. City council has passed an ordinance regarding snow removal (violations can result in fines up to $500), but reminds you that sidewalk snow removal is simply a combination of courtesy and caring toward all those who need to use the public sidewalks.

The City reminds owners or occupants of non-residentially zoned properties that all snow and ice which has accumulated on the adjacent public sidewalk prior to 6am must be removed by noon. Immediately after the accumulation of ice on such a sidewalk it must be treated with sand, salt or other substance to prevent it from being slippery. Within 24 hours after the end of each accumulation of snow greater than 1 inch, the owner or occupant of every residentially zoned property must remove the accumulation from the adjacent public sidewalk. Remember, accumulation can occur from any source including precipitation and drifting, and the term "sidewalk" includes adjacent walks and ramps leading to crosswalks, typically at corners. Ice must be treated as mentioned above and removed within 24 hours after accumulation. Last but certainly not least, please exercise caution and care when shoveling, especially during extreme cold.

Best Wishes for a Safe and Happy Winter Season from the City of Ann Arbor

Please save for reference throughout the snow months.

Revised August 2003

From ANN ARBOR to YPSILANTI

The surprising stories behind local place names.

by Jeff Mortimer

The first settlers named their new homes for their old ones, or for someone they admired, or to make their real estate sound as attractive as possible.

Long before the advent of the hippies, Washtenaw was far out. The name of the county is derived from an Ojibwa word, variously rendered as "Washtenong," "Wuste-nong," or "Wushte-nong," that means "far country" or "land beyond." One can only speculate why they called it that, but Detroit, the population hub of both European and indigenous peoples in Michigan, was probably the reference point. When Ann Arbor was founded in 1824, the latter had never seen the former settling so far west of there.

Ironically, no community within Washtenaw County has an Indian name. When a wave of northeasterners engulfed this part of Michigan Territory after the opening of the Erie Canal (the county's population swelled from between fifteen and thirty people in 1824 to almost 1,000 only three years later), most named their new homes for their old ones, or for someone they admired, or to make their real estate sound as attractive as possible. People who study such matters categorize place names as "descriptives," "honorifics," and "commendatories." Ann Arbor's name has elements of each.

The wives of the town's cofounders, John Allen and Elisha Rumsey, were named Ann and Mary Ann, respectively. Allen wrote home while en route that he intended to incorporate his spouse's name into whatever he called his settlement. He contemplated naming it Annapolis but ultimately chose Ann Arbor. In addition to honoring his and Rumsey's wives, it was also descriptive and commendatory . . . and perhaps a bit nostalgic.

Naming a place for natural features not only helped people locate it—the arbors at the village's site on the Huron River, created when the natives burned off vegetation to provide trails for themselves and forage for deer, were well known to surveyors and trappers—but also helped promote it. Many of the earliest settlers, including Allen and Rumsey, were land speculators. The formula was simple, endlessly repeated, and sometimes successful: buy a bunch of cheap real estate from the government, promote its virtues by whatever means necessary, and resell it when the farmers and tanners and blacksmiths rise to the bait. "Arbor" both described the spot and conveyed its charm. Allen may also have been remembering Arbor Hill, a town in Virginia a few miles south of where he was raised.

If Allen's old home played a part in his choice, he would have been emulating his colleagues from the Northeast. Manchester, for instance, was named after a township in Ontario County, New York, whence many of its early settlers came. The names of York (obviously), Bridgewater, Lodi, Lima, Augusta, and Salem townships also migrated from the Empire State. Sharon, originally Peppergrass, was renamed for Sharon, Connecticut.

Chelsea was the Massachusetts hometown of Elisha Congdon. In 1848 he and his brother James gave land concessions to the Michigan Central Railroad to persuade it to build a depot in a place then known as Kedron (after a town in New York). Elisha became Kedron's first postmaster in 1849, and changed its name to Chelsea soon thereafter.

Of course, many of the names local settlers borrowed from Back East had themselves been borrowed from England. The earliest inhabitants of Manchester, New York, hoped it would rival its prosperous industrial namesake. Chelsea, Massachusetts, was named for the artsy London neighborhood; New York State and City for the duke of York; and Bridgewater, New York, for a town in Somerset, England. Salem, New York, got its name from a nearby fort. It's a shortened form of "Jerusalem," from the Hebrew for "city of peace," an appellation whose popularity spread across the country (there are dozens of Salems in the United States) after it was first used in Massachusetts in 1628.

Several local names were spawned by a fascination with both the American Revolution, which many older citizens could still remember, and the Greek struggle for independence from the Ottoman Empire, which began about the same time as the first spade of earth was turned for the Erie Canal. Freedom fighters, and when Boston considered itself the Athens of America, Greek revival architecture was all the rage. But it's also not known *whether* that was the intent; it's sheer speculation on Romig's part. Two other theories are less fanciful: that it was named, rather conventionally, for Scio Township in Allegany County, New York, and that the word Scio refers to a Greek island whose name became a rallying cry in the war against the Turks. That last account is, at least, the best story, and the one subscribed to on the township's website.

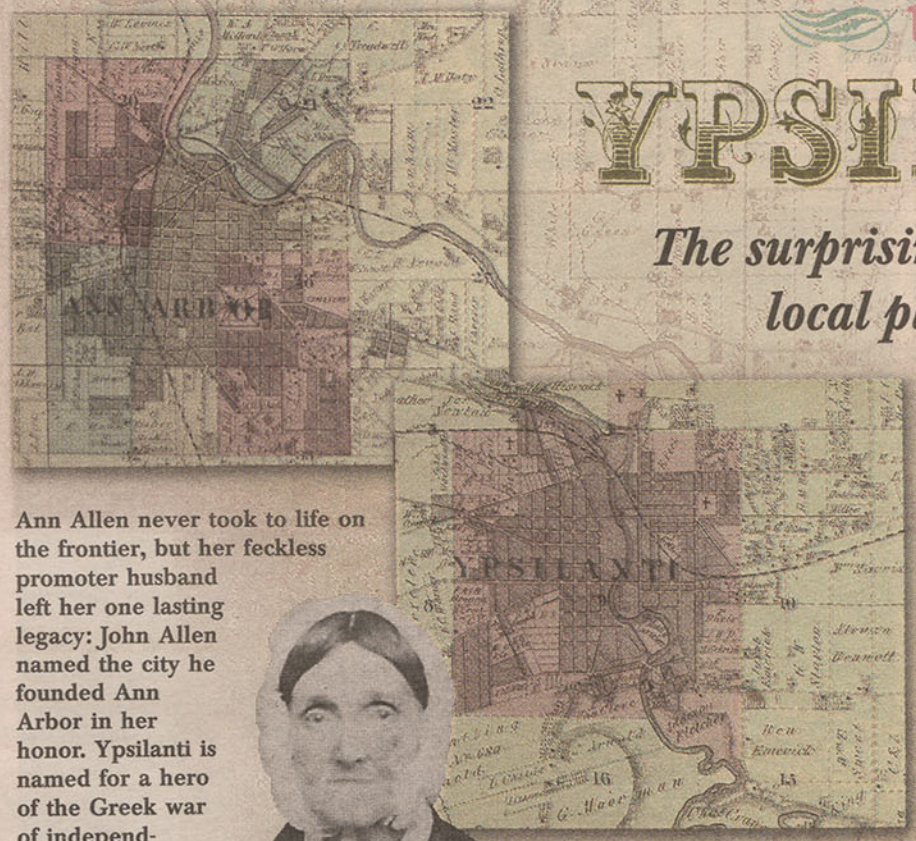
The Greeks called the island Chios, and it was deemed "the seat of modern Greek literature." In April 1822 the Ottoman fleet captured it. Its libraries and printing presses were destroyed, and most of its people were either massacred or sold into slavery. The disaster became a sort of 9/11 for the freedom fighters, and when Boston congressman Daniel Webster rose in the House of Representatives on January 19, 1824, to praise the Greek patriots, he alluded in his widely circulated remarks to "the destruction of Scio."

The Scio Township website speculates that either Webster or his speechwriters, or perhaps a journalist who transcribed the speech, got the name wrong; in fact, Webster was merely using the Italian name for the island, which had been governed by Italy before the Turks took it in 1566.

Harry Blossom endorses the Webster theory for the naming of Scio, New York, where he's the town historian. The Michigan Scio, one of two new townships formed in 1833 out of the original Dexter Township, was christened at the first township meeting, at the home of Horace Leek. Even if its name is only another example of borrowing from the Northeast, it does indirectly memorialize the Greeks' revolution.

Four years after hosting that historic occasion, Leek not only attended the first meeting of Lyndon Township but also was elected its first supervisor. While there seems to be no record of who or what Lyndon was named for (it was originally called Promised Land), the other township carved out of Dexter was called Webster.

Alexander Ypsilanti, the leader of the



Ann Allen never took to life on the frontier, but her feckless promoter husband left her one lasting legacy: John Allen named the city he founded Ann Arbor in her honor. Ypsilanti is named for a hero of the Greek war of independence.

Township is the most plainspoken example; others, like Scio Township, Pittsfield Township, and Ypsilanti (City and Township), are less clear today.

In the entry for Scio in his book *Michigan Place Names,* Walter Romig writes, "Since the early township records were destroyed by fire, it is not known why it was named with the Latin word for 'I know.'"

PHOTOS AND 1874 MAPS COURTESY U-M BENTLEY HISTORICAL LIBRARY; PHOTOS OF MAPS, GRIFFIN LINDSAY

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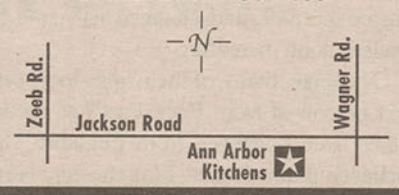

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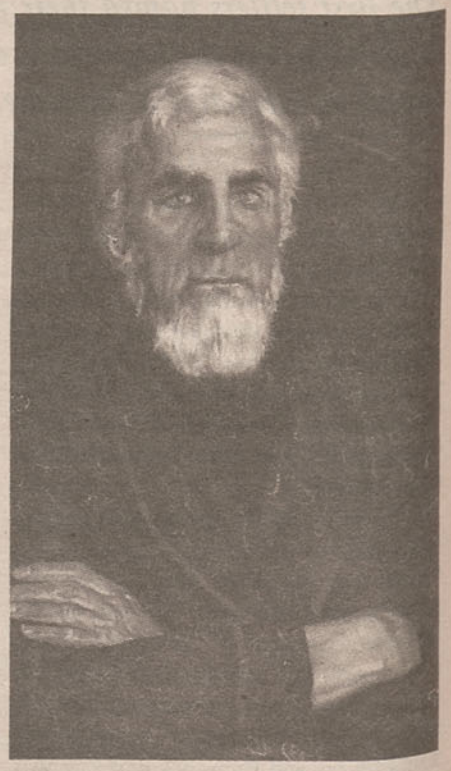
From ANN ARBOR to YPSILANTI

continued

Greek revolt, was a member of a powerful Greek family and an officer in the Russian army. After he was captured and imprisoned by the Austrians (long story; the Balkans, you know), his son, Demetrius, took up the cause. The younger Ypsilanti became famous when, with his forces outnumbered 100 to 1, he held the citadel of



Judge Samuel Dexter gave his name to both a village and a township.

Argos for three days and then withdrew during the night through the Turkish lines without losing a man.

This story must have made quite an impression on judge Augustus Woodward (yes, of avenue fame) of Detroit, one of the most powerful men in Michigan Territory. He and two partners, John Stewart and William Harwood, formed the original plat for a settlement where the Detroit-to-Chicago road was to cross the Huron River. Stewart, the first settler (Woodward himself never resided in the area), wanted to call it Waterville. Harwood favored Palmyra, after his former home in New York. They unimaginatively compromised on Springfield (today the most popular place name in the United States) and dispatched a surveyor to Detroit to record the plat under that name.

The judge was waiting for him. Woodward not only demanded that the name be changed to Ypsilanti, but apparently also had the power to refuse to record the plat if his partners disagreed. Ypsilanti it was.

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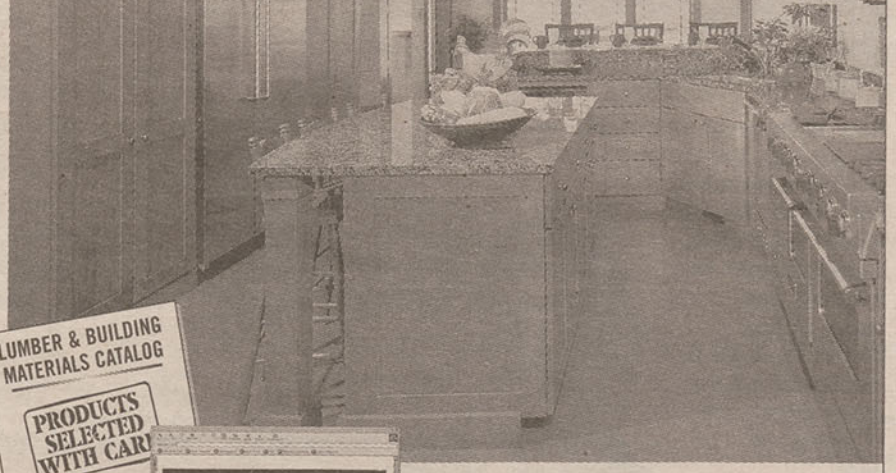

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When Boston congressman Daniel Webster rose in the House of Representatives on January 19, 1824, to praise the Greek patriots, he alluded in his widely circulated remarks to "the destruction of Scio."

Thirteen citizens braved the cold for a meeting at the McCracken schoolhouse south of Ann Arbor early in 1834. They were there to select a name for the township they were about to ask the territorial council to grant them. Each had come from a different town in New York; one shudders to think. But Ezra Carpenter (yes, of road fame) neatly settled the matter. He proposed honoring William Pitt the Elder, first earl of Chatham, who ended his long and influential political career in England as an ardent supporter of the rights of the American colonists. Thus the township of Pitt was born, renamed Pittsfield Township five years later and Pittsfield Charter Township in 1972.

Dexter's namesake was a little closer to home: judge Samuel Dexter was the village's planner and its first landowner. Saline's developer, Orange Risdon, named his village for the salt wells along the Saline River, where no fewer than six Indian trails converged. Superior Township seems clearly to have a commendatory name, although there's no way of knowing what was on Henry Kimmel's (or Kimmell's) mind when he put it forward as the name of one of the townships formed in 1831 from the now defunct Panama Township. After all, who could hear "Superior" without getting the right idea? And while the whole area was sylvan in those days, only one township was officially called that. According to Walter Romig, Sylvan Township was "named in 1834 by Edmund E. Conkling, at the suggestion of his wife," which would make it the only county community dubbed by a woman, just as Ann Arbor is the sole place named for women.

Ann Arbor is also the sole place with a name all its own. In fact, while there are fifty-three Springfields in thirty-four states (not counting the animated Springfield on *The Simpsons*), no other place in the world is called Ann Arbor. And its naming, at least among Washtenaw County communities, was also unique: partly descriptive, partly commendatory, somewhat nostalgic, and honoring women who were prominent only in their nascent village. ■

New Yorkers flooded into Michigan after the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825. Six Washtenaw County townships take their names from the Empire State.

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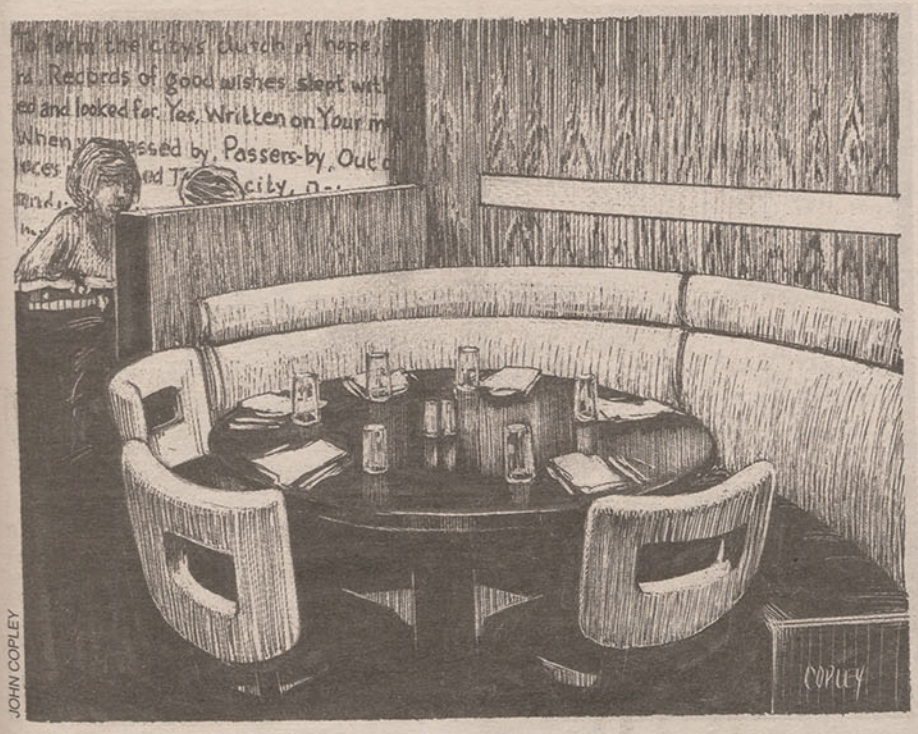

JOHN COPLEY

Rush Street

Versatile

Rush Street's decor would please the trendiest metrosexual. With its ebony-and-cream furnishings, black granite, honey-colored wood, tweedy carpet, and fabulous lighting, the new Main Street restaurant manages Chicago-like sophistication, yet it does not feel contrived or out of place.

The narrow main dining room is dominated by a sparkling granite sushi-bar-like counter with enough elbow room for drinking and eating comfortably. Random fragments of Carl Sandburg's poem "Passersby" are graphically enlarged to create dreamy existential wallpaper:

Out of your many faces
Flash memories to me . . . .

The menu is concise but versatile, with Mediterranean-accented appetizers and small plates (served from 2:30 p.m.) and petite entrees (after 5 p.m.). On my first visit, soon after Rush Street's November 1 launch, we waited for a table at the bar, where we enjoyed a superb glass of Jordan Chardonnay 2002 and ordered several small dishes. The *bacalao*-crab croquettes combined salted cod and crab in a single-bite, crispy, delicious morsel. The cured salmon was wonderful, too: a small crunchy potato pancake topped with horseradish cream, coarsely chopped lox, and a giant caper berry. The whole prawns were juicy and served with a garlicky saffron broth and thin slices of good baguette to mop up the sauce.

We were so taken with these that until we moved to our table, we didn't notice that the bartender had forgotten to bring the empanadas, although she had remembered to charge us for them. Our table server quickly brought two of the rich little pastries filled with a spicy mixture of ground pork and ground beef. The only small plate I didn't like was a scallop seviche—the citrus sauce and fennel were fine, but the scallops were slightly slimy and fishy.

I sampled several of the appealingly presented, modestly sized main courses on later visits. The salmon Provençal's two small, seared fillets had a pleasant saltiness; they were accompanied by a diminutive mound of French-style flageolet beans with minced carrot, and tapenade (a puree of olive, garlic, and spices). I adored the sautéed walleye, moist and lightly herbed, topped with chanterelles, on a bed of buttery lentils.

The petite, perfectly prepared, cut-it-with-a-butter-knife beef tenderloin came with sublime, creamy truffle-flavored mashed potatoes. I can also recommend the tender Kobe beef short rib. With the duck breast, however, I found myself sawing through the exterior fat with a heavy-duty steak knife—though the breast meat itself was tender and rosy-pink.

I was not as impressed with the kitchen at lunch. The soup of the day was still not ready at 12:30, although the restaurant had opened an hour before. The pear-and-Stilton salad was so cold that the fruit and cheese flavors didn't unfold; the watercress garnish was well beyond fresh. The roast beef sandwich disappointed, with dry meat and gritty lettuce. But the Kobe beef burger was divine—tender and full-flavored, served with a good aioli. What a pity that this excellent burger is available only at lunch.

The lemon tart with a pine-nut-and-rosemary crust is a fine shared dessert for a couple; the truffle tasting is perfect for four. Beware of the molten chocolate cake, served with pomegranate-honey *semifreddo* (somewhere between mousse and frozen custard). It's so good it will be hard to pass the fork, especially after you break through the soft crust to the chocolate-lava center.

Rush Street's service was professional and generally good, particularly for a place that had just opened. The small-plate approach has an inexpensive look, with menu items priced from just $2. That's deceptive; we ordered so many that we paid about what we would have for three courses—but then, we got a lot more variety and experimentation. Drinks and appetizers are half price between 4 and 6 p.m., except Sundays. In summer, there'll be sidewalk seating. Isn't tapas and wine alfresco a lovely thought as we enter the dark months?

Rush Street
314 South Main **913–0330**

Dinner: Mon.–Sat. small plates from 2:30 p.m.; full menu Mon.–Thurs. 5–10 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 5–11 p.m., Sun. 4–9 p.m.
Lunch: Mon.–Sat. 11:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

Dinner: tastes $2–$5, small plates $5–$9, salads $5–$7, entrees $12–$19, desserts $3–$4
Lunch: soup $5, salads $4–$6, sandwiches $6–$8, entrees $7–$14

♿ Fully accessible

Eve

Food as art

In the fifteen months since it opened, Eve has wrapped a changing menu around the seasons, added Sunday brunch and a wine bar, and become one of the city's most popular dining spots. It's also Ann Arbor's most stylish dining room, where spare lights twinkle against a machine-gray ceiling like artificial stars in a postindustrial sky, and disparate elements—exposed brick, diaphanous draperies, felt banquettes, blond wood—set a perfect stage for the inventive cuisine. Chef-owner Eve Aronoff takes a lot of chances; not all of them work, but when they do, her kitchen is capable of stunning culinary feats. Her food is exuberant art.

Yet she doesn't take herself too seriously. Has anyone else noticed that the White Castle blue-collar classic, little slider-hamburgers, has landed on two of Ann Arbor's most ambitious menus? Zingerman's Roadhouse has a terrific beef version with a plate of five as a main course. During our November visit, Eve did its own as an appetizer: three half-pint spicy ground-turkey burgers, served open-faced on a slice of sturdy brioche, with melted cheese and green-onion mayonnaise. We also sampled the good but messy "inspired nachos," which replace tortilla chips with fried wontons (similar texture, cleaner

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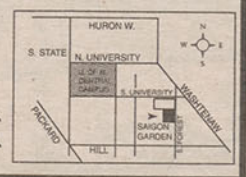

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taste), and a sophisticated Moroccan chicken in crisp wisps of pastry.

Eve's menu always includes a simple fish- or steak-of-the-day entree. The simple fish I sampled was a shrimp dish—plump, juicy shelled shrimp, pan seared with a crust of herbs and spices. They were simply perfect, and so were the accompaniments—rice deeply infused with coconut flavor, and pencil-thin grilled asparagus. The simple steak that night was a Delmonico, a fine cut charred outside and bloody inside. It was outdazzled, however, by the third entree in our trio—a transcendent beef tenderloin with caramelized onions, gooey Stilton cheese, and port-macerated dried fruit.

Both beef entrees were served with a sweet-potato gratin. In this case, less might have been more. Beef tenderloin, Stilton, and fruit are already a lot for the palate—a classic potato gratin might have been a better foil. And for the simple steak, I'd love it if we had a restaurant of Eve's caliber that would serve a straightforward Parisian steak-*frites*.

At the meal's end, Eve's cup of chocolate, served warm in a teeny Italian espresso cup, provided a dose of velvety chocolate cream. The fruit and cheese board, with an Irish Cashel Blue and two French selections, was impressive and big enough for a crowd.

Sunday brunch had more rough edges. The service was so slow that patrons around the room began eyeing each other in the cranky-table game: *That table next to us—they got here after we did, but they're almost finished eating, and we haven't been served.* I am an avid slow-food proponent, and each dish is clearly cooked to order; on that particular Sunday, however, slow food seemed to be more an operational problem than a philosophical decision.

The dishes were somewhat uneven as well. I ordered scrambled eggs with smoked salmon, schmaltz-fried onions, and a bagel. The bagel was decent and the lox superb, but the onions were a few barely browned bits with no chicken-fat flavor. The eggs were too dry and firm.

The two best dishes at our table were the veggie scramble—three full-flavored gooey cheeses, grilled smoked sausage, and crisp autumn vegetables scrambled with eggs—and the pan-fried trout: The menu calls the trout fillet "lightly spiced," but I found it wonderfully bold—not mouth-incineratingly hot, mind you, but frankly seasoned with a sure hand. It was perfectly prepared, light and flaky, and accompanied by a fried egg; the stunner here was a marvelous, dense tomato-garlic cream that was a perfect complement in flavor and texture.

Aronoff is one of a new breed of activist chefs and restaurateurs transforming the American kitchen. On November 6 she lent her restaurant for a dinner to benefit the Agrarian Adventure. Inspired by superchef Alice Waters's Edible

JOHN COPLEY

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JOHN COPLEY

Schoolyard, the Agrarian Adventure aims to teach children about all aspects of food—environmental, sensual, cultural, and health related—in our lives.

That night Aronoff combined her talents with those of another gifted chef, Takashi Yagihashi of Tribute Restaurant in Farmington Hills. The two created a seven-course, wine-paired feast for seventy-five people (among them Alice Waters)—at $250 per person—including lobster in a lime-and-ginger foam; Michigan whitefish with creamy risotto; Manchester cheese with caramelized olives; and butternut squash crème brûlée with lavender ice cream. When Aronoff, Yagihashi, and the kitchen staff came out to the dining room at the end of the meal, the diners burst into applause.

I was sitting with friends of chef Yagihashi, so he joined us over after-dinner drinks. Asked how it had been in the kitchen, Yagihashi said, "That Eve is so small and sweet and shy. But she's not shy with spices. She really kicked my [tail] with those spices."

That's Eve—a lesson in joie de vivre. Few restaurants in Ann Arbor—or anywhere—match its degree of perfection in selecting the individual ingredients (many from small, local producers), which shines through even in the less successful efforts. Eve and her kitchen are true masters with herbs and spices. And that dining room is just gorgeous.

Eve
415 North Fifth Avenue 222–0711

Dinner Tues.–Thurs. 5:30–10 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 5:30–11 p.m., Sun. 5–9 p.m. (wine bar, with limited food service, open later); brunch Sun. 11 a.m.–2 p.m. Closed Mon.

Dinner appetizers $7–$22, salads $5–$20, entrees $17–$32, desserts $4–$10; brunch $8–$14, children $6

Fully accessible

Quick Bites

Zingerman's Roadhouse rolled out its new Sunday brunch menu in November. Served from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., it includes lots of regional American classics—grits and eggs; cream cheese, bagels, and lox; Vermont flannel cakes; and corned-beef hash with poached eggs. But the real showstoppers are the house-made doughnuts, adapted by Roadhouse chef Alex Young from a traditional Dutch American recipe (Dutch immigrants introduced doughnuts to these shores, Zingerman's Ari Weinzweig explained in a phone interview). Worlds apart from the standard sugar-flour-grease bombs of chain fame, Roadhouse doughnuts are dense and full flavored, with hints of molasses, lemon zest, and nutmeg in a rich buttermilk batter, deep fried but not greasy, and dusted with a dark brown *muscovado* sugar. Everyone at our table of six (which included some hard-to-impress New Yorkers) was utterly bowled over. For now, the doughnuts are available at the Roadhouse only on Sundays, but Weinzweig told me that once chef Young's staff feel they have perfected the recipe, they'll offer the doughnuts daily in the Roadshow trailer.

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In a recent review of Sadako, I tallied the number of Ann Arbor restaurants that serve Japanese food at fifteen. Add one more. The **Teriyaki Grill** opened in late summer at State and William. It's spotless and tiny, let's say one step up from hole in the wall, with carryout counter service and seating for maybe a dozen. Sibling-owners James and John Walters are carving out a healthy-fast-food niche with such dishes as meat or veggie teriyaki, *oyako, udon* soup, and *gyoza*. The brothers learned to cook from their Japanese-born mother, who met their father, a GI, during his tour of duty in Japan. Most entrees are around $5. I can vouch for the teriyaki chicken and vegetables—a sizable portion of lean soy-ginger-marinated breast meat and crisp fresh veggies over brown rice—served in about five minutes. The Teriyaki Grill is running a group special until the end of January: between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m., if four people in your party buy a meal, the fifth entree is free.

—Bix Engels

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Send tips, quips, and comments on local restaurants to the Bix Tip Line at bixtips@comcast.net.

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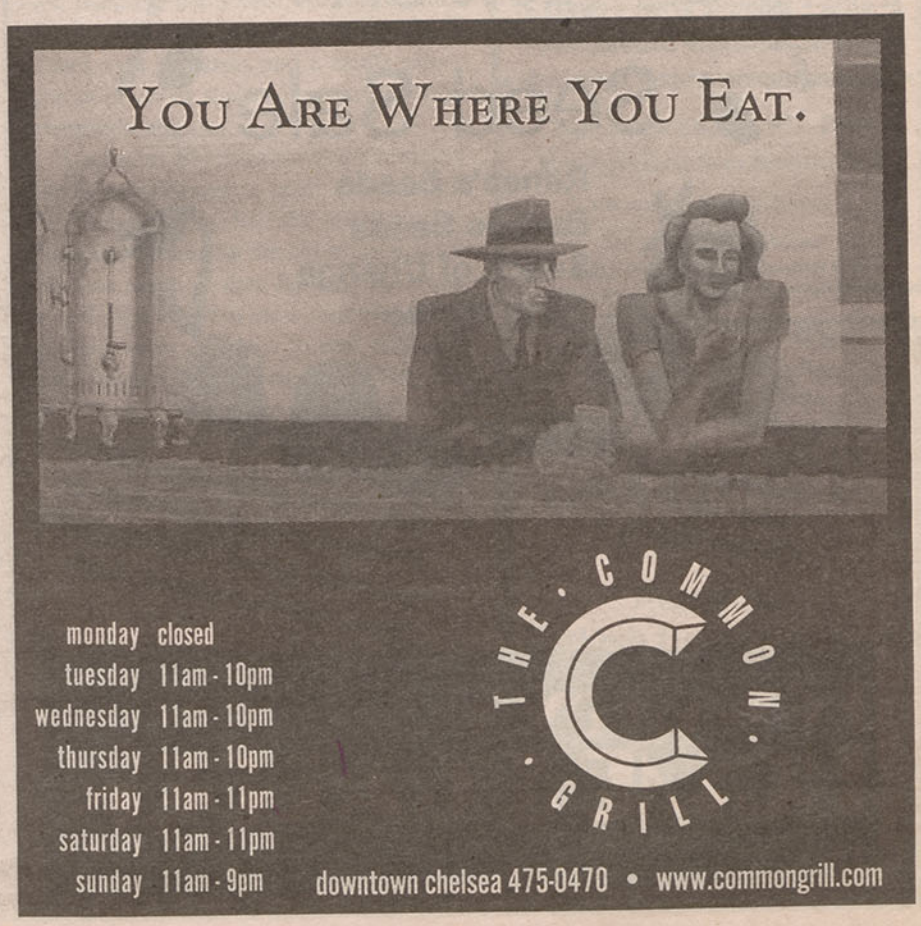

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MARKETPLACE CHANGES

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Sisters Genevieve Stoyak and Amanda Steele teamed up with former Lily's Garden employee Harriet Held to buy and relocate the store.

New shops at Market Place

Lily's moves and Être tries retail

Kerrytown has lost a florist, but it may gain a coffee shop. In November, Lily and Tim Kittle sold **Lily's Garden,** long a fixture of the indoor market, to former employee Harriet Held and her partners, sisters Genevieve Stoyak and Amanda Steele. After amicable discussions with Kerrytown management—which had been negotiating with the Kittles to move elsewhere in the center so it could offer the space to a food-oriented business—the new owners decided to relocate to the Shops at Market Place, just across the Farmers' Market. "In order to grow our business, we needed to become more than a flower shop inside a larger market," says Stoyak. "And we liked the idea of starting fresh in our own space."

The new owners—who are keeping the Lily's Garden name and tradition of family-oriented service—will continue to offer the fresh blooms, plants, cards, and gifts the store has been selling, but also plan to specialize in floral design for weddings and other events. "We have to compete with supermarkets and other mass retailers that are selling discount flowers," Stoyak says, "so we have to specialize. Events are a great way for us to do that."

The partners have created a cozy nook at the front of the store with an inviting slipcovered couch, peaceful music, and complimentary coffee and tea. It's a nice spot to meet with event planners, and also a convenient place for young shoppers to hang out with Held's daughters, Daille, age four, and Dorothy, two and a half, as well as Steele's two-year-old son, Noah, who are likely to be in the store a lot. "That was another reason we liked this space—because the kids could be here without us worrying about them dashing off into the rest of Kerrytown," says Stoyak. "It's also nice to look ahead and know that I have a business where I can raise my children and not have to worry about juggling my professional life and my personal one."

Stoyak, who is engaged to be married, says she loves unusual wedding designs—a hint she's undoubtedly passed on to her two partners, who will handle the bulk of the work for the impending nuptials. "I've got plenty of ideas to give them," Stoyak laughs. "You can't work in the floral industry for more than a week without envisioning your own wedding—even if you never plan to get married at all!"

Until now, 90 percent of Être's business has been wholesale. But when the Chungs found that the retail Market Place spot rented for about the same price as office space, they decided to find out what local customers think of their work.

As for the Kerrytown space Lily's has left behind, general manager Karen Farmer says it's still up for grabs, but she's thinking java. "The market floor space that's available now that Lily's left is approximately sixteen hundred square feet, which is ideal for a coffeehouse at Kerrytown," she says. "We're talking with a few different businesses, both local and not local, that have shown interest."

Lily's Garden, 303 Detroit Street, suite 106, 663–2693. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–7 p.m., Sat. 8 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Right next door to Lily's, Glen and Audrey Chung have opened **Être Design Jewelry,** a retail showcase for the custom design and wholesale business the couple have been running from their home and at trade shows for the past three years. Neither has formal design training, but Glen's father has been in the jewelry business for twenty-five years, and Glen says he learned enough to know he has a feel for the work. Since the Chungs urge customers to ignore trends in favor of finding a personal style, they say their more eclectic background has proven better than traditional training.

Although Être carries lines from other designers—including wonderfully sassy jewelry boxes in offbeat colors—the store's focus is on Glen and Audrey's own sleek, contemporary pieces with fluid, uninterrupted lines and an understated glimmer. Working primarily with stainless steel and titanium, the couple produce chunky rings with tension-mounted precious stones, link bracelets, and a tactile selection of pendants shaped like circles, bolts, trapezoids, and arcs.

Until now, 90 percent of Être's business has been wholesale to other retailers, but the Chungs found that the retail Market Place spot rented for about the same price as office space, so they figured they might as well find out what local customers think of their work. Glen, a former engineer with General Motors, runs the shop. For now, Audrey is keeping her day job in finance at the U-M.

Être Design Jewelry, 303 Detroit Street, suite 105, 794–9847. Wed.–Sun. 11 a.m.–6 p.m., and by appointment.

Return to Ashley

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her first job working at Mary Ridgway Sweets, in an old house at 332 South Ashley. In the following years, she went to school (EMU, studying metalsmithing), and the location became Yribar Designs before standing vacant for several years. All along, Peterson had kept in touch with the owner of the house, and occasionally checked in to see whether he'd rent her the space. Last summer he finally did, and in December, the now married and hyphenated Catherine Peterson-Thursby opened **Red Shoes** in the same house where she'd doled out candy over twenty years before.

Born and raised on Ann Arbor's Old West Side, Peterson-Thursby has been a working artist most of her adult life. Her work embraces a wide range of media, including needlepoint pillows, hand-stitched quilts, mosaics, hand-painted furniture, paintings, jewelry, hand-knit children's sweaters and booties, and quirky dolls. "It's a kooky, kooky mix," she says.

The store, named for the magic slippers in *The Wizard of Oz,* showcases not only Peterson-Thursby's work but also vintage home decor—an antique scale, retro cabin blankets, a "bouquet" of sterling silver forks, "pot holder" rugs made from recycled wool sweaters, and a delightful selection of cards featuring the drawings of Peterson-Thursby's six-year-old son, Jackson (daughter Fiona, not quite two, has not yet begun working commercially).

The store's four small rooms are so neatly arranged that at first glance there doesn't seem to be much stuff. But a closer examination reveals many treasures: homemade red felt baby shoes, hand-stitched catnip bags, velvet pet collars, a rustic painted coffee table whose sides are studded with pop bottle caps, a picture frame decorated with vintage buttons, folk art snowmen, and much more. Even the store itself is a work of art, hand painted in sweet, sentimental pastels by Peterson-Thursby and accented by a mosaic border running the length of the store's narrow hallway. The mosaic deserves closer examination: made from hundreds of pieces of vintage china, Beatrix Potter cups, letter tiles, and numbers, it took Peterson-Thursby four months to complete.

Red Shoes, 332 South Ashley, 913–5554. Wed.–Sat. 10 a.m.–2 p.m., and by appointment.

Carol Roeda replaces Gallery Von Glahn

An Art Fair artist takes her own Main Street spot

When Grand Rapids artist Carol Roeda showed her work at her

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

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J. ADRIAN WYLIE

As a teenager, Catherine Peterson-Thursby sold candy in the house at 332 South Ashley. Now she's opened her own store, Red Shoes, in the same spot.

first Ann Arbor Summer Art Fair twenty-three years ago, she had a specific goal: she wanted to earn enough money to adopt a child from Korea. She made twice as much as she'd planned, and adopted Paul, now twenty-five. She's not only continued to have a booth in the fair every year since—"We had to keep going, to make money to raise our kids and send them to college!"—she's also grown her client list enough to open two retail stores: first in Grand Rapids and now on Ann Arbor's Main Street, where her **Carol Roeda Studio** replaces Gallery Von Glahn.

Store manager Sandy Bouma has worked Roeda's Art Fair booths for several years, and she's also worked in a Massachusetts gallery that carried Roeda's line. In other words, Bouma is a big fan. She's happy to take customers through the store, a colorful, fun space filled with whimsical artwork in a wide variety of media. There are bed-size quilts, framed wall art painted in squares to *look* like quilts, designed fabrics for those who want to make their own quilts, felt jester caps, eye-catching scarves, seasonal wreaths, and hand-painted furniture. "I just love to make stuff, and have never had any rules about what media I use. I've never been able to show it all in the art fairs and shows I do, so the stores are a great way to give people a look at everything I do," Roeda says.

Roeda's art may range across a lot of media, but her cheerful color palette and playful graphics unify the store into a recognizable body of work. "Carol has a certain look, which is relaxing, joyful, and fun," says Bouma. "It's perfect for people who want something unique in their house, not just the Pottery Barn look."

Among Roeda's unique creations are her hand-painted mix-and-match steel sculptures. Laser cut into flat, two-dimensional art, they come in a seemingly endless variety of shapes—flowers, angels, stars, hearts, leaves, birdcages with attached crouching cats, snowmen, words like *joy*, birds—with no two exactly alike. They can be mounted on metal stands or attached with brackets, wooden blocks, or magnets to almost anything customers can imagine: refrigerators, bedposts, hallway mirrors, curtain hardware, or simply a wall. Roeda encourages clients to change these pieces with their moods and the seasons. For instance, you can create your own mural (or give people a piece at a time so they can create their own), or you can get one of Roeda's black-and-white hallway mirrors with lower corner brackets and three screws on the top. You could put snowmen and snowflakes up for winter, daisies in a canning jar in the summer, and pumpkins with maple and oak leaves in the fall. "When people realize how the metal stuff works and how you can change it, they get so excited," Bouma says. "You can see the lightbulb go off in their heads."

"I just love to make stuff, and have never had any rules about what media I use," says artist Carol Roeda. "I've never been able to show it all in the art fairs and shows I do, so the stores are a great way to give people a look at everything I do."

Carol Roeda Studio, 319 South Main, 994–3389. Mon.–Thurs. 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.–10 p.m. Closed Sun.

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munity of Businesses to move into the world of retail. The artisanal cheese-making company, a joint effort between Zingerman's and managing partner John Loomis, has moved from its original location in Manchester to a warehouse and retail space on Plaza Drive south of Briarwood, right next door to Zingerman's Bakehouse. There, Loomis starts as early as 3 a.m. to turn out the company's fresh cheeses, made by hand on a small scale without gums, antibiotics, or fillers—the way cheese was made a century ago.

Although Loomis comes from a dairying background, the last thing he wanted to do was run a dairy himself—largely because he remembered loathing all the jobs associated with it that he'd been forced to do as a boy. But after his father died and his brother broached the idea, he agreed—if they could find a different way to do dairy. His brother introduced him to Zingerman's cofounder Ari Weinzweig, who in turn introduced Loomis to specialty cheeses he'd never tasted before. "I spent a while traveling around America trying to find someone to teach me, but no one was making cheese like that back then," he says. "I decided I had to go to Europe to apprentice."

Even in Europe, he was surprised by how disconnected people had become to the food they ate. One of his jobs at one dairy was to give tours, and while he was explaining to a group of tourists that the cows had all been given names so the cheese makers would remember that the animals were sentient beings, not just milk producers, one woman demanded angrily, "How come they all have girls' names?"

When he came back to start his own family cheese-making business, it was with the idea of tightening the link between milk producer, cheese maker, cheese seller, and customer. "All my milk comes from a single farmer, and I get it fresh and cooled down from that morning's milking at two p.m.," he says. "I talk to the farmer in the morning, the milk comes in the afternoon, I make the cheese, and I sell it the next day."

Loomis and his family found out quickly that they didn't have enough money to make a real go of it, so since Zingerman's was the company's biggest customer, Loomis went to work for them as a cheese buyer for a while before Weinzweig brought up the idea of spinning off a separate cheese-making business. It started small, with just a few cheeses, but now offers hand-ladled cream cheese, Sharon Hollow fresh cheese spiked with Tellicherry black pepper or garlic and chives, and Manchester (a mold-ripened cheese similar to Camembert), as well as a double-cream, pepper-strewn cheese called Bridgewater, and three varieties of goat cheese: one fresh and fluffy, like a cream cheese; one slightly aged, with a flakier texture; and the mature, mellow Chelsea, which Loomis likes to roll in crushed pecans and brown in butter. The Creamery also sells homemade gelato.

The new operation is mostly work space, but there's 250 square feet of retail up front. Even though the Creamery has only three employees—Loomis and his wife, Ruth, plus Josh Minor, who makes the gelato—the store is open seven days a week. "We're proud to say we put every one of our employees on our label," Loomis laughs.

Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Drive, 929–0500. Mon.–Sat. 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. noon–4 p.m.

Babs is back

Her new bar is beneath the Schwaben Halle

Barb "Babs" Corwin has been trying to open her own bar for six years. She got sidetracked for most of that time by Andy Gulvezan, whom she met while shopping for a likely downtown space and who ended up hiring her to manage a bar he named after her—Babs Liberty Street Piano Bar. But when Gulvezan put his Crow Bar on Main Street up for sale and Corwin tried to buy it, negotiations soured and so did their business relationship. "Let's just say it was a business deal gone bad," Corwin says.

Under new manager Andy Garris, Gulvezan's place on Liberty became the Alley Bar, and Corwin set about finding a space for the bar she'd wanted to open all along. She found it downstairs in the Schwaben Halle, underneath furniture store Three Chairs, and has spent the better part of the past year getting **Babs Underground Lounge** ready to open. Warm and comfortable, with a burgundy, amber, and brown color palette against mahogany, leather, and stone, Babs is designed to be a neighborhood bar styled after the corner pubs you find in big cities like Chicago and New York. "It's not an Irish bar, it's not a martini bar, it's not a theme bar—it's just a *bar* bar," Corwin laughs.

That said, Babs will certainly serve martinis and the still popular cosmopolitans, as well as a menu of champagne specialty drinks, including mimosas (champagne and OJ), kir royales (champagne and Chambord), champagne with peach schnapps and orange juice, and splits. Corwin is perhaps the perfect bartender: she loves to make drinks and she loves the taste of alcohol, but she's not a big drinker herself. "Two drinks and I'm good," she says.

Corwin also loves the hours. "I used to have an eight-to-five career, and it was boring and awful," she says. "I'm not by any means a morning person, so this is a great schedule to be on for me. When I go to the grocery store, no one's there. When I go to Target, no one's there. And I also fix houses during the day. I buy them, fix them up, maybe live in one of them for a while, then sell them."

Corwin's doing more selling than buying lately, since getting the new bar open has taken much longer than anticipated and she has needed to generate some short-term cash. But her old customers haven't forgotten her, and she's expecting to see them again when she opens the Under

ground Lounge in January. "People literally grab me on the street, wanting to know when I'm going to be open," she says.

Babs Underground Lounge, 213 South Ashley, 997–0800. Tues.–Sat. 7 p.m.–2:30 a.m. Closed Sun. & Mon.

Briefly Noted

The restaurant at the corner of State and Ellsworth has undergone four name, ownership, and concept changes over the years, but it's still carved up into tiny rooms, as it was back in the days when it was the upscale eatery Great Lakes Shipping Co. But the decor's days are numbered, according to new owner John Ottino, who bought what was by then **Gallagher's** in November. "It was a style that was very popular in the 1970s," says Ottino, "but that idea has gone the way of the salad bar. We want to open the place up and give it an airier feel. It will also give us better control of any smoke in the building."

Ottino and his wife and business partner, Carol Chantiny, have renamed the place **Enzo's,** after their eight-month-old golden retriever, and are tweaking the business into a sports bar and billiards club. For now, they've settled for redoing the menu—eliminating most of the family-oriented entrees and emphasizing bar-friendly sandwiches, burgers, and munchies instead.

Come spring, they plan a major overhaul that will include eliminating many of the interior walls to make room for twelve billiard tables, replacing the back wall with glass, and rebuilding the back deck to accommodate live jazz and blues performances as well as regularly scheduled "cruise nights"—where customers can hang out in their cars, preferably vintage convertibles—in the parking lot out back.

Ottino and Chantiny are eager to get started on construction, but in the meantime, they're making the small rooms work for them: right now, the restaurant's three big-screen TVs and twenty-nine smaller sets are tuned to different sporting events in different rooms, so fans can find their favorite teams and root along with like-minded fellow patrons.

Enzo's, 3965 South State, 665–1600. Mon.–Thurs. 11 a.m.–midnight, Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m.–1 a.m., Sun. noon–midnight.

Studies indicate that more Americans are clinically obese than ever before, but even at the beginning of the last century, there were enough generously sized women to justify a fancy Manhattan shop just for them. **Lane Bryant,** founded by Lena Bryant in 1900, opened its first store for women size 14 and over on New York's Fifth Avenue in 1904. Since then the company has grown along with American's waistlines, and, after being acquired by Charming Shoppes, Inc., in 2001, now has 2,200 stores operating under the Lane Bryant, Fashion Bug, and Catherine's Plus Sizes brands.

Lane Bryant, a longtime Briarwood tenant, recently left the mall to launch a freestanding store on Carpenter Road in Pittsfield Township. The company says the chance to own its own building was a great opportunity—and it turned out to be an equally good opportunity for the **Gap,** which has been looking for a space big enough to justify a return to Briarwood ever since American Eagle Outfitters outnegotiated the pop icon retailer for its location two years ago. The former Lane Bryant location isn't big enough for the Gap, but when neighboring specialty goods purveyor **Harry and David** closes in January, the Gap will combine the two spaces into its new store.

Banana Republic, also owned by Gap Inc., has been looking for a Briarwood space for several years as well. According to Briarwood's general manager, Ida Hendrix, Banana will return to the mall sometime during the next year, although she was reluctant to disclose the location until she's sure the current tenant has notified its employees of the change. "We're working to find another location for the displaced merchant," she says.

Lane Bryant, 3769 Carpenter Road, 973–3078. Mon.–Sat. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.–6 p.m.

American Home Fitness invites you to "stop in [and] bring your CD player, your sweats, and a towel" and work out on its treadmills, elliptical cross trainers, exercise bikes, and home gyms. Just don't expect to hit the locker room when you're done. American Home Fitness isn't a gym; it's a store that wants people to feel comfortable testing the merchandise before they buy. This winter, when American Home Fitness moves from its current location on West Eisenhower, it will be going head to head against a key competitor, the Fitness Experience at nearby Arborland.

Both the Sterling Heights–based American Home Fitness and the Illinois-based Fitness Experience specialize in home exercise equipment for those who want a gym-quality workout in the privacy of their own homes. American Home Fitness is the exclusive dealer for popular health club brand Precor; Fitness Experience focuses on name brand Life Fitness. "We're direct competitors, but we don't fear competition," says American Home Fitness president Eric Swanson. "What it really comes down to is the people in our store—and we think we have, quite honestly, the best people in the marketplace."

Treadmills, step climbers, and exercise bikes have been around for a long time—although the latter two now come in rehab-friendly recumbent models—but the big thing in exercise equipment is the elliptical cross trainer, a machine that combines the effects of stair climbing, cross-country skiing, and running with a forward and backward elliptical motion that minimizes impact on the joints and lower back. The machines are so popular at local health clubs that most ask members to reserve one ahead of time—enhancing the appeal of owning your own. Elliptical cross trainers start at around $2,500 and can range as high as $5,000.

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Brenda and Paul Schlanderer retired after thirty-nine years on South University. The Main Street store, run by Paul's brother Charles and his family, remains open.

naw, phone unavailable at press time. Mon.–Fri. 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m.

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Paul "Wally" Myers is merging his Liberty Street clothing boutiques, **Suwanee Springs Leather** and the adjoining **Kioti,** with his Main Street shop, **Seychelle,** in what he says will be the last move of his retail career. "I think I've got one more in me," he says, "and this is it."

Both Liberty Street stores reach the end of their leases this winter. Kioti, which carries casual, ethnically influenced clothing, will move into Seychelle's space behind Jules on Main sometime in December, with Suwanee Springs Leather following in March. The combined stores will probably be called simply **Suwanee Springs,** after the northern Florida town along the Suwanee River where the store's original founder grew up. Myers has owned the leather goods shop since 1976.

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On Jackson Road, Tony DeMercurio is closing **Mr. Dee's Seafood and Things** and moving both retail and wholesale operations to Saline. DeMercurio, who launched a wholesale seafood business first out of his garage and then out of a friend's warehouse for three years, opened Mr. Dee's on Ann Arbor's west side in 1986. He would have liked to stay right where he was, but lost the lease after the building was sold to Gordon Automotive, which is tearing down both DeMercurio's former space and the neighboring building that housed O & W in order to build a Cadillac, Oldsmobile, Saab, Kia, and Isuzu dealership to replace its current one on Washtenaw.

When alternative locations on and around Jackson Road didn't pan out, DeMercurio happened upon a vacant spot in Saline's Country Creek shopping center on East Michigan Avenue. In mid-January he'll open **DeMercurio's Marketplace,** a full-service boutique grocery with not only fish and seafood but also fresh produce, a bakery, and meats. He's still looking for a likely warehouse for the wholesale side of his business, which will still be called Mr. Dee's.

DeMercurio is enthusiastic about his new venture, but he's sorry about leaving so many regular customers behind. "We considered a lot of things when we were thinking about where to move, and the loyalty of our long-standing customers was definitely one of them," he says. "I feel very badly that we have to disappoint them by moving away, especially the older people who can't drive the distance."

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Marketplace Changes reported recently that the **On the Go** convenience store in Maple Miller Plaza was out of business. It's now open again. According to an employee, the store closed temporarily after a robbery.

Closings

By the time this issue hits the streets, Paul and Brenda Schlanderer probably will have already closed **Schlanderer** on South University, the family jewelry store they've been running for the past thirty-nine years. The Schlanderer legacy goes back even farther than that: Paul's grandfather opened a jewelry store with a partner before 1900, founding Schlanderer & Sons on Main Street in the 1930s when the partner bowed out. That store, run by Paul's brother Charles and Charles's offspring, Linda and Charles Jr., remains open.

Paul says he would have liked to leave the store to someone—but he had no children or other relatives interested in stepping up to the plate. Instead, he and Brenda are going to enjoy a well-earned retirement, with no plans to leave the area for warmer climes. "I was born here. I'll die here," Paul says simply.

Also closed: **Hobby Xpress,** in the Maple Village Shopping Center. The owners, based in Jackson, own several other stores in Michigan, including hobby store Fun 4 All on Washtenaw in Ypsilanti.

—Laura McReynolds

Follow-Up

Ten years ago this month, this column noted four new businesses. **Chris W. Petersen Jewelry Design** is still thriving on South Main near Liberty, but the space of **Hickory Hill Antiques** on South Maple Road is now occupied by Climate Control Self Storage, and the **One Price $7 Clothing Store,** an Arborland tenant, is gone. The Arborland **Noble's Men's Clothing** store also closed, but there's still a Noble's Custom Clothing in Ypsilanti.

January 1995 survival rate: 25 percent

Five years ago this month, we had only three retail and restaurant openings to report. **Zydeco Louisiana Kitchen** was starting up then—the proposed name at the time was **Nola's on Main Street**—but closed in mid-2004. With a new restaurant, Rush Street, now open there (see this month's Restaurants), it counts as a survivor. In January 2000 Minda Hart's **Earth Wisdom Music** was reopening, in one of many moves, at 322 East Liberty; that building has been torn down, but Earth Wisdom is still doing business in Scio Township. And Lee Gilles's **Frameology Custom Framing and Fine Art** continues at Arborland, but under a new name—Pierre Paul Art Gallery.

January 2000 survival rate: 100 percent

One year ago this month, six new businesses in Marketplace Changes lifted hopes for economic recovery. **FCB House of Flavors,** at the west end of Nickels Arcade, is still mixing distinctive smoothies, shakes, and coffee drinks; and the Spadafore brothers are still selling specialty groceries at the **LoCarb Center,** recently relocated to North Main. The other businesses observing first anniversaries: Alex Rostanets's **ABG Communication,** offering cell phones, satellite dishes, and similar equipment on William; Paul and Claire Tinkerhess's **Fourth Ave Sleep Shop,** adjoining their Fourth Ave Birkenstock store; hip fashion purveyor **Man Alive** at Briarwood; and **Saigon Garden** restaurant at Forest and South University, which reopened impressively after a devastating fire.

January 2004 survival rate: 100 percent

—Paul R. Schwankl

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- Jean Duquoc

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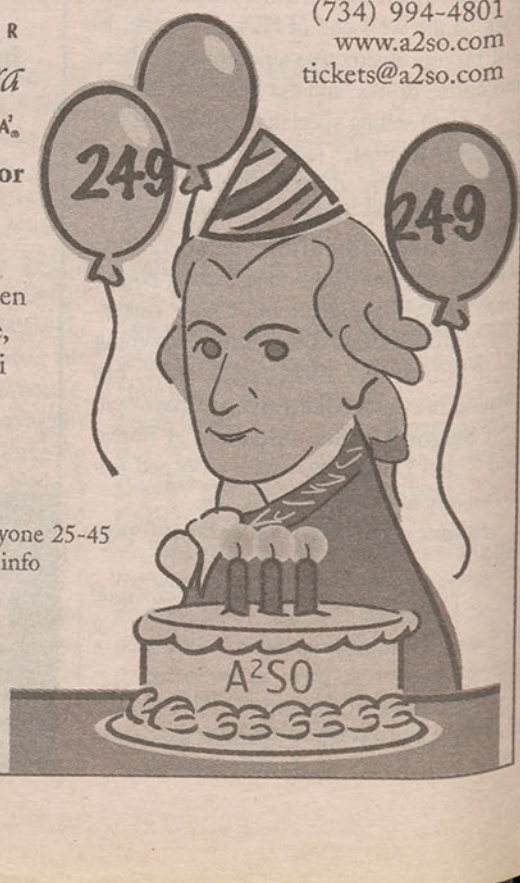

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What gets in?
We give priority to Ann Arbor events. Always include a contact person's telephone number. Please try to submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the deadline (the tenth day of the preceding month) might not get in.

Next month's deadline:
All appropriate materials received by the tenth day of the month for the upcoming month will be used as space permits; materials submitted later might not get in (but will be added to arborweb).

arborweb:
The entire Observer events calendar for the month is available at **arborweb: www.arborweb.com.** This calendar is updated daily. If you have an event not listed in the print calendar, or want to update a listed event, please send it and we'll post it on arborweb.

★ *Denotes no admission charge.*

WARNING!

To save space, many recurrent events are noted only the first time they occur. This includes many weekly and biweekly events. To find a full list of events for the last Wednesday in the month, for example, readers should also check earlier Wednesday listings, especially the first Wednesday.

www.arborweb.com

Karen Brandow and Charlie King, Jan. 15

Stephanie Blythe, Jan. 13

GALLERIES

77 EXHIBIT OPENINGS — Laura Bien

77 GALLERY REVIEW
A Taste of the Season — Laura Bien

MUSIC AT NIGHTSPOTS

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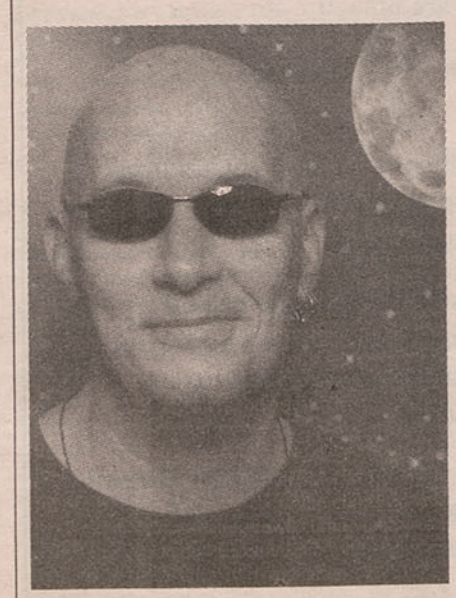


Allyn Ball, Jan. 6–8

Audra McDonald, Jan. 30

1 SATURDAY

★**T'ai Chi.** *Every Saturday & Sunday.* Local martial arts instructor Gabriel Chin leads a session of t'ai chi, which combines an exaggeratedly slow martial art and meditation. *8:30 a.m., the Cube, north side of Michigan Union. Free. 761–3272.*

★**Winter Democratic Rides: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Saturday.* 20-mile ride (or longer) at a pace and to a destination chosen by the assembled riders. *Note*: Riders should be prepared to take care of themselves on all AABTS rides. Carry a water bottle, a spare tire or tube, a pump, change for a phone call, and snacks. *10 a.m. & 1 p.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 913–9851.*

★**Walk: Grex.** *Every Saturday (different locations).* All invited to join members of this local computer-conferencing group for a walk, either along trails in Bird Hills Park (January 1) or from Gallup Park through Nichols Arboretum (January 8, 15, 22, & 29). *10 a.m., meet at the Newport Rd. entrance to Bird Hills Park (Jan. 1) and in Gallup Park parking lot (Jan. 8, 15, 22, & 29), 3000 Fuller Rd. (west side of Huron Pkwy.). Free. 741–9351.*

★**ASL/Silent Coffee Hour.** All hearing and deaf American Sign Language speakers invited to an hour of chat in American Sign Language (ASL). *4 p.m., Eastern Accents, 214 S. Fourth Ave. Free. fab@umich.edu.*

First Saturday Jam, Potluck, Silent Auction, and Contra Dance: Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. Drake Meadow leads international dancing (7 p.m.) to live music by the Mazel Toves and Roger Diggle calls contras (8 p.m.) to live music by 'Twas Brillig. No partner needed. Wear flat, smooth-soled shoes. Also, a silent auction. Bring an item to contribute—"a great way to share presents that would be happier in another home," notes an organizer. Preceded at 4 p.m. by informal singing and jamming (bring an instrument) and at 5:30 p.m. by a potluck (bring a dish to pass; table service and beverages provided). *7 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $9 (AACTMAD members, $8). (Potluck & jam session are free.) (313) 937–1552.*

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Kinsey" (Bill Condon, 2004). *January 1–6.* Acclaimed biopic about the pioneering American sex researcher Alfred Kinsey. Liam Neeson, Laura Linney, Chris O'Donnell. $8.50 (children, students, veterans, & seniors, $6.25; members, $5.50). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA. **"Beyond the Sea"** (Kevin Spacey, 2004). *January 1–6.* Biopic about 50s rock 'n' roll teen idol turned pop stylist and movie actor Bobby Darin. Kevin Spacey, Kate Bosworth, Bob Hoskins. $8.50 (children, students, veterans, & seniors, $6.25; members, $5.50). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

2 SUNDAY

★**Meditation: Karma Thegsum Choling.** *Every Sunday.* All invited to sitting (9 a.m.) and chanting (10 a.m.) meditation. If you feel a tad intimidated, don't fret—"We'll put you on the right page and tell you not to worry about it," notes an organizer. *9 a.m., KTC, 614 Miner (off Miller). Free. 761–7495, 678–7549.*

★**Shorinji Kempo.** *Every Sunday.* This Japanese self-defense system combines hard and soft techniques with Zen philosophy. *9–11 a.m., Arts in Motion Dance Studio, 2839 Boardwalk. Free to first-time visitors ($25 monthly dues). 332-1780.*

★**Silent Vipassana Meditation: Deep Spring Center for Meditation and Spiritual Inquiry.** *Every Sunday and January 11 & 25.* Meditators of all levels invited for an hour of silent meditation focusing on the breath. While the practice stems from the earliest and purest Buddhist teachings, this form of meditation requires no religious beliefs. Followed by a 30-minute dharma discussion. *9:30–11 a.m. (Sun.) & 7:30–9 p.m. (Jan. 11 & 25), Deep Spring Center, 3003 Washtenaw, suite 2 (entrance on Glenwood, next to Arby's). Free, but donations accepted. 477–5848.*

★**"Annual Winter Hike and Potluck": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.** WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner leads a bracing winter hike followed by a 5-minute hike uphill to a cozy indoor potluck (bring a dish and your own table service). *10 a.m., Park Lyndon South (park in east lot), North Territorial Rd. (15 miles west of US-23). Free. 971–6337.*

★**First Singles: First Presbyterian Church.** *Every Sunday.* A weekly program open to all single adults interested in contemporary Christian topics, new ideas, personal growth, and social and physical activities. Today: First Singles member Carol Lee Charles leads a discussion on **"New Year Resolutions."** Also this month: Daniel Toon discusses his experiences in **Iraq** in 2004 (January 9), church member Bill Palkowsky discusses **"Faith and Self-Worth"** (January 16), and speakers and topics TBA (January 23 & 30). Also, members meet for breakfast every Saturday at 10 a.m. at Cafe Marie in the Courtyard Shops (1759 Plymouth Rd.). *11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church Curtis Room, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662–4466, ext. 43.*

International Standard Accuracy Contest: Michigan Atlatl Association. All invited to compete in a contest that includes 5 throws each at 15 m and 20 m targets. *Atlatl* is the Nahuatl (Aztec) word for a Neolithic device used for throwing a spear or dart, a weapon that predates the bow & arrow by several millennia. Also, the Rod & Gun Club's 30-target 3-D course is open today to all archers and atlatlists, 8 a.m.–4 p.m. *Noon, Chelsea Rod & Gun Club, 7103 Lingane Rd. (south off Waterloo Rd., west of Chelsea). $9 course fee. (810) 231–2314.*

★**Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** *Every Sunday.* All seniors age 50 & older invited to play bridge. No partner required. *12:30–3:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★**U-M Wrestling vs. CMU.** *1 p.m., Cliff Keen Arena, Hoover at S. State. Free. 764–0247.*

★**Winter Democratic Rides: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Sunday.* The assembled riders choose their own pace, distance, and destination. *1 p.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 994–5908 & 663–4498 (today's ride), 913–9851 (general information).*

Gays and Lesbians, Older and Wiser. Potluck and social gathering for gays and lesbians age 50 & older. Bring a dish to pass. *1–3 p.m., Turner Senior Re-*

JANUARY EVENTS @ Ann Arbor District Library

Sunday Jan. **9**
2:00 - 3:00 pm

Sunday Edition: Author **Susan J. Douglas** discusses ***The Mommy Myth: The Idealization of Motherhood and How It Has Undermined Women*** — Malletts Creek Branch

Sunday Jan. **9**
3:00 - 4:15 pm

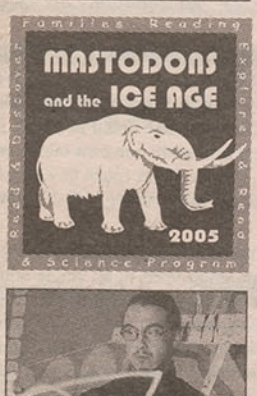
Lecture: Library music specialist **Richard LeSueur** discusses **The Song Recital: A Living Art Form** and the upcoming UMS Recital by mezzo-soprano **Stephanie Blythe** Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room

Monday Jan. **10**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Martin Luther King Jr. Lecture: Dr. Lester Monts, UM Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs discusses **Civil Rights Accomplishments and Challenges** Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room

Tuesday Jan. **11**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Panel Discussion: Inside the World of Television Broadcasting — UM Knight-Wallace Fellows Journalists from **60 Minutes, CNN** and **Fox** discuss today's news broadcasting challenges — Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room



Wednesday Jan. **12**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Lecture: Historian **Martin Hershock** discusses **Freedom's Laboratory: Michigan's Path From Territory to Statehood** Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room

Thursday Jan. **13**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads Lecture: Dr. Janice Terry explores the **History of the Real Leo Africanus and the World He Lived In** — Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room

Saturday Jan. **15**
11:00 am - noon

Mammoths and Mastodons Science Workshop (age 6 -11)
West Branch To register, call 327-4200 (Branches) or 327.8301 (Downtown)
Repeated: 2:00 - 3:00 pm — Northeast Branch
Repeated: Sat. Jan. 22, 11:00 - noon — Malletts Creek Branch
Repeated: Sun. Jan 23, 2:00 - 3:00 pm — Downtown Library

Saturday Jan. **15**
3:00 - 4:30 pm

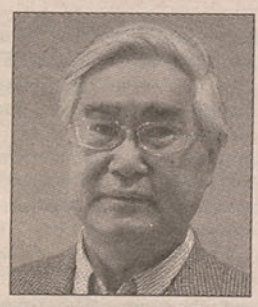
Lecture: Ford car designer **Camilo Pardo** Malletts Creek Branch

Wednesday Jan. **19**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Lecture: Dr. SuiWah Chan explains **The Origins of Chinese Writing** — Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room

Thursday Jan. **20**
7:30 - 9:00 pm

Lecture: Old Books: Trash or Treasures? Tom Nicely discusses valuable and rare books and gives sample appraisals — Northeast Branch



Saturday Jan. **22**
1:00 - 2:00 pm

Celebration of Chinese Culture & Heritage Northeast Branch

Tuesday Jan. **25**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Lecture: Dr. Robert Elsie discusses **Albanian Literature and the Work of Author Ismail Kadare** Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room

Wednesday Jan. **26**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Discussion: Views From Inside the Beltway: Behind the Scenes at the Smithsonian and State Department Libraries with **Nancy Gwinn** and **Elaine Cline** Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room

Friday Jan. **28**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads Lecture: Dr. Hashim Al-Tawil discusses the **History of Islamic Art & Architecture** Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room

For more information call 327.4200 or visit our website at www.aadl.org

source Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd., suite C. $2. 764–2556.

"The Sky Tonight"/"Season of Light": U-M Exhibit Museum Planetarium. *January 2, 8, & 9. The Sky Tonight* (11:30 a.m. Saturdays only and 1:30 & 3:30 p.m. both days) is an audiovisual exploration of the current night sky. *Season of Light* (12:30 p.m. Saturdays only and 2:30 p.m. both days) is an audiovisual show about various ancient and modern solstice celebrations, including Christmas and Hanukkah. *Note:* A new planetarium show begins January 15 (see listing). *1:30, 2:30, & 3:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. $3.75. 764–0478.*

U-M Women's Basketball vs. MSU. *2 p.m., Crisler Arena. $3 (youths under 18, $1; U-M students with ID, free). 764–0247.*

★Kids Open Stage: Oz's Music Environment. Kids of all ages and all musical abilities are invited to play, sing, or just observe. *2–3 p.m., Oz's Music Environment, 1922 Packard. Free; donations welcome. Reservations required. 662–8283.*

★Dinosaur Tours: U-M Exhibit Museum. *Every Saturday & Sunday except January 1.* 30-minute docent-led tour of the museum's dinosaur exhibits. *2 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, North University at Geddes. Free, but limited to the first 15 people to sign up for each tour. 764–0478.*

★Ann Arbor–Motown Hash House Harriers. *Every Sunday & occasional Saturdays.* The local chapter of an unorthodox running club for people who like to make a game of running. Each runner's task is to follow a trail designed to be confusing. The usual result is that the lead (i.e., fastest) runners run the longest distance, so that runners of varying abilities complete the course in nearly the same time. Each run includes at least one pit stop (with beer & pop hidden along the way) and is followed by a trip to a nearby restaurant. *3 p.m., location TBA. Free. Weekly locations available at a2h3.org.*

"The Snow Queen in Seven Stories": Dreamland Theater. *January 2 & 9.* Naia Venturi directs her original multimedia marionette show, based on stories by Hans Christian Andersen, about the friendship between a girl and boy. When a hobgoblin curses a mirror that breaks and cuts the boy, he becomes the prisoner of the Snow Queen, and his friend sets out to save him. Seating is limited; reservations recommended. *4 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross, Depot Town, Ypsilanti. $7 (kids 12 & under, $5). 657–2337.*

★Ann Arbor Morris Dancers. *Every Sunday.* All invited to try an outdoor session of this boisterous, jingly, ancient English ceremonial dance said to have originated a millennium ago as a pantomime of war between Moors and Crusaders. Wear athletic shoes. *6–8 p.m., Gretchen's House Learning Center, 2340 Oak Valley Dr. Free. 747–8138.*

★Ann Arbor Smocking Group. Informal "sit 'n' stitch" gathering for those interested in the English art of embroidery known as smocking and in heirloom sewing. All invited. *7:30 p.m., location TBA. Free. 663–7867.*

Weekly Meeting: U-M Ballroom Dancers. *Every Sunday.* Ballroom dancing to recorded music, including fox-trots, waltzes, cha-chas, rumbas, tangos, swing, and more. No partner necessary. Preceded at 5:30 p.m. by lessons and practice. *8–10 p.m., Michigan Union Ballroom (Jan. 2, 9, & 30) & Michigan League Ballroom (Jan. 16 & 23). $2. 763–6984.*

FILMS

MTF. "Kinsey" (Bill Condon, 2004). See 1 Saturday. Mich., times TBA. **"Beyond the Sea"** (Kevin Spacey, 2004). See 1 Saturday. Mich., times TBA.

3 MONDAY

Weekly Rehearsal: Women's Chamber Chorus. *Every Monday.* All invited to join this independent 30-member local women's chorus to sing everything from Bach and Hungarian folk songs to madrigals and pop tunes. David Perample directs. *10–11:30 a.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh at Davis. $5 per week (applicable toward $60 semester membership dues) for nonmembers. 213–3770, 663–5907.*

★Monday Club: Ann Arbor Salvation Army. *Every Monday.* Drop-in social group for seniors age 55 & older. Every meeting includes a speaker, word game, craft, or activity. Also, **Bible study** and **chair exercises.** Coffee, tea, juice, and doughnuts served. Followed by lunch ($1) and socializing. *10 a.m.–noon, Salvation Army, 100 Arbana. Free. 668–8353.*

★Mah-Jongg and Other Games: U-M Turner Geriatrics Center. *Every Monday.* All seniors invited to play mah-jongg, chess, and pool. *10 a.m.–noon, Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9350.*

★**Jewish Older Adults: Jewish Community Center.** *Every Monday.* Activities begin at 11 a.m. with **"Fitness Fun"** ($3), a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar. The weekly program also includes meetings of the **Writing Group** (1–3 p.m.). Homemade buffet luncheon ($3) available at noon. All invited. *11 a.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★**"Introduction to Computers I & II": Ann Arbor District Library.** *January 3 & 10.* Two-part hands-on introduction to computers, with an emphasis on basic skills. *Note:* This program is also offered at the Northeast (January 4 & 11, 10 a.m.), Malletts Creek (January 5 & 12, 1 p.m.), and West (January 6 & 13, 10 a.m.) branches. *1 p.m., AADL training center, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free (AADL noncardholders, $10). Preregistration required. 327–8367.*

★**Bridge Group: U-M Turner Geriatrics Center.** *Every Monday & Friday.* All seniors invited to play bridge. Refreshments. *1–4 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9350.*

★**Afternoon Group Entertainment: Ann Arbor Parks Department.** *Every Monday, Wednesday, & Saturday except January 1.* All adults invited to play dominoes, chess, checkers, cards, board games, and more. *1:30–3 p.m. (Mon. & Wed.) & 1–2 p.m. (Sat.), Northside Community Center (809 Taylor), & Bryant Community Center (3 W. Eden Ct. off Champagne from Stone School Rd., just north of Ellsworth). Free. 994–2985, 994–2722.*

★**"Judo, Jujitsu, & Self-Defense": A.C.E. Academy of Martial Arts.** *Every Monday.* Local sensei Dan Powers offers a fun, easy introduction to these martial arts and self-defense skills. Wear a *gi* (simple white robe) or loose-fitting or gym clothes. *4 p.m. (kids) & 6 p.m. (adults), A.C.E. Academy of Martial Arts, 749 Airport Blvd., suite 3. Free. 645–7069.*

★**Shulchan Ivrit (Hebrew Table) Mass Meeting: U-M Hillel.** Hebrew speakers of all levels invited to join this conversation group. Drinks provided. *5 p.m., Espresso Royale, 324 S. State. Free. 769–0500.*

★**Open Board Gaming Night: The Underworld.** *Every Monday.* All invited to play any of the board games that the Underworld carries—but you must find your own opponents. *6 p.m.–midnight, Underworld, 1214 South University. Free. 998–0547.*

★**Huron Valley Toastmasters.** *Every Monday.* Members give speeches and are critiqued by their audience. A chance to develop confidence in speaking publicly. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by dinner in the cafeteria. *Note*: Different Toastmasters chapters meet every Wednesday & Thursday (see listings). *7–9 p.m., U-M Main Hospital cafeteria, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. (off Fuller). Free to visitors. Dues: $48 a year (after a onetime nonrefundable fee of $16). 663–1836.*

Dream Group. *Every Monday (tentative dates).* All invited to join veteran local social worker Rebecca Mullen to discuss their dreams from Jungian, Buddhist, and other spiritual perspectives. *7:30 p.m., location TBA. Donation. 662–5925.*

★**Large Ensemble Meeting: Ann Arbor Recorder Society.** All beginning and advanced players of the recorder and other early instruments invited. Directed by local flutist Corinne Hillebrandt. Music provided; bring your own music stand. *7:30–9:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free to visitors ($30 annual dues). 769–1616.*

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Out Loud Chorus.** *Every Monday.* Beginning to advanced singers invited to join this chorus for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their friends. The chorus presents its winter concert on January 21 & 22 (see listings). *7:30–9:30 p.m., Memorial Christian Church, 730 Tappan. Free. 973–6084.*

Marc Cohn: The Ark. *January 3 & 4. (The January 4 show is sold out.)* Rare performance by this reclusive singer-songwriter who won a Best New Artist Grammy in 1991 for "Walking in Memphis." Opening act is **Kaki King,** a fast-rising young guitar virtuoso. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $31 & $46 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

Pub Quiz: Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. *Every Monday.* Local high school English teacher Geoff Cost throws out questions for anyone to answer at this popular weekly trivia fest. Prizes. *9–11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. $5 team fee. 665–2968.*

FILMS

MTF. "Kinsey" (Bill Condon, 2004). See 1 Saturday. Mich., times TBA. **"Beyond the Sea"** (Kevin Spacey, 2004). See 1 Saturday. Mich., times TBA.

4 TUESDAY

Social Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Tuesday & Wednesday.* All seniors age 50 & older invited to play bridge. No partner required. *9:30–11:30 a.m. (Tues.) & 12:45–3:30 p.m. (Wed.), Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. 25¢ contribution for prizes. 769–5911.*

★**Scrabble: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** *Every Tuesday.* All seniors age 50 & older invited to play this popular word game. *10 a.m.–noon, Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★**Jewish Older Adults: Jewish Community Center.** *Every Tuesday.* All seniors invited to participate in the social discussion group **"Let's Talk About,"** play **mah-jongg** (noon–2 p.m.), and/or join the **ABC Quilters** (1–3 p.m.) to make quilts for HIV-infected babies. *10:30 a.m.–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★**"Today's Forum": Ann Arbor Senior Center.** *Every Tuesday.* All seniors age 50 & older invited to discuss an important regional, national, or international issue. The discussions are based on a recent essay or article, which is chosen in advance by members of the group and made available at the Senior Center. *11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★**Newcomers Coterie Club of Ann Arbor.** Retired registered nurse Char Hatlen discusses the value of therapeutic massage for relaxation and treating arthritis. All women invited. *12:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 944–6228.*

★**Ann Arbor FrontRunners.** *Every Tuesday & Thursday.* Gay, lesbian, and straight runners invited to choose a distance of 3–5 miles to run with FrontRunners members. *6:30 p.m., meet at Maiden Lane and Fuller in Fuller Park. Free. 741–1763.*

★**"A Gathering of Peace": The Free Daist Communion.** *Every Tuesday.* Prayer vigil for peace featuring the teachings of Adi Da, Western-born guru Heart Master (formerly known as Da Free John). All invited. *7 p.m., location TBA. Free. 741–0432.*

"11th Annual Bad Poetry Night": Ann Arbor Poetry Slam. Instead of the usual featured reader, the centerpiece of this month's Slam is a competition to see who can come up with the worst poem—original or stolen. "We'll be shelling out 50 simoleons for the worst piece of poetry to disgrace our stage," organizers promise. "And we here at the Slam have heard enough bad poetry to know the merely ill-conceived from a soul-curdling descent into a truly insipid utterance. Haul out your bad old and let's get on with the new." Cash prizes. Preceded and followed by open mike readings. *7–10 p.m., Club Heidelberg (above the Heidelberg restaurant), 215 N. Main. $5. For information, call Larry Francis at 426–3451.*

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Treetown Community Chorus.** *Every Tuesday.* All invited to join this fun-loving independent local mixed chorus to sing mostly familiar tunes, along with some serious music, in various genres. David Perample directs. *7–9 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh at Davis. Free ($80 per semester membership dues). 213–3770.*

★**Sweet Adelines County Connection.** *Every Tuesday.* All women invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local 30-member barbershop harmony chorus. *7–10:30 p.m., UAW Local 898 Hall, 8975 Textile Rd. (west of Rawsonville Rd. off I-94), Ypsilanti. Free to visitors ($18 monthly dues for those who join). 995–4110.*

English Country Dancing: Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. *Every Tuesday.* Historical and traditional English dances. Today: Ray Bantle, Marty Wilson, and Steve Gold lead dances to music by fiddler Donna Baird and pianist David West. Also this month: callers Arlene Kindel and Nilos Nevertheless with music TBA (January 11), caller Glen Morningstar with music by West and Baird (January 18), and callers Bantle, Erin Larkspur, and Torbin Zimmerman with music by Childgrove (January 25). No partner or previous experience necessary. Comfortable nonslip walking shoes recommended. *7 p.m., Chapel Hill Condominium clubhouse, 3350 Green Rd. $6. 422–1170.*

★**Washtenaw Ski Touring Club.** *January 4 & 25.* Skiing slide shows, by members TBA. Today's topic: **"Switzerland Cross-Country Skiing."** Also this month: **"Cross-Country Skiing"** (January 25). *7:30 p.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 665–0248.*

★**Huron Valley Harmonizers Chapter of SPEBSQSA.** *Every Tuesday.* All male singers invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. *7:30 p.m., Stony Creek United Methodist Church, 8635 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. Free to visitors ($130 annual dues for those who join). Newcomers should call in advance for instructions. For information, call Keith Opal at 741–1506.*

Track Workout: Ann Arbor Track Club. *Every Tuesday.* Runners (and walkers) of all ages and abilities welcome. Now in their 27th year, the Track Club's workouts are a popular means for runners to train and be timed at various distances. *7:30 p.m.*

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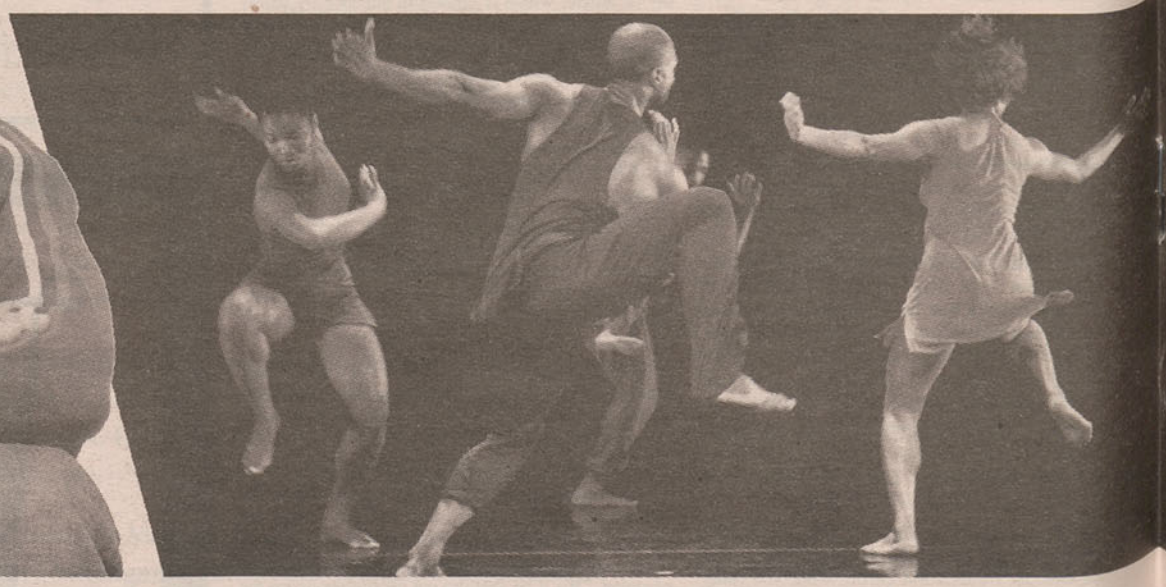
126th UMS Season

04 05 January



Sam Shalabi

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 8 PM
Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre

Emerging from Montreal's vibrant underground music scene, Osama "Sam" Shalabi moves into his next generation of thinking, an imaginary Arab and Jewish "dystopia", almost a West Side Story projected into the future. As Shalabi describes it, his newest work is a "kind of 'concerto' for oud and pre-recorded material," using sampling to include a collage with musical and non-musical layers that involves narrative, text, and oud. Ideas and musicianship combine in artistic and challenging ways that cause audiences to admire his genius or become infuriated by his provocation — or both. *Adult language — for mature audiences only. No intermission.*

Made possible in part by **Arts at Michigan**. Funded in part by the **Whitney Fund**. Media Partners **Michigan Radio/Michigan Television, Metro Times**, and **Arab American News**. Presented in partnership with the **Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services**.

Stephanie Blythe, mezzo-soprano

Warren Jones, piano
Davie Heiss, cello
THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 8 PM
Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre

After the opening of Handel's opera *Rodelinda* at the Met in December, the *New York Times* raved about the "powerhouse mezzo-soprano Stephanie Blythe, who increasingly seems the successor to the great Marilyn Horne in the Baroque and Bel Canto repertory." Come here what all the fuss is about as Blythe makes her UMS debut.

PROGRAM
Songs of Fauré, Frank Bridge, Vaughn Williams, and Nicholas Slonimsky.

DJ Spooky's Rebirth of a Nation

A Performance Work by Paul D. Miller, aka DJ Spooky That Subliminal Kid
FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 8 PM
Power Center

Paul Miller, best known under the moniker of "DJ Spooky That Subliminal Kid," makes his UMS debut with this compelling remix of the D.W. Griffith's controversial movie *Birth of a Nation*, combining footage from the film with other video imagery and a live audio mix. DJ Spooky's uninhibited style and intellectual approach have landed him on the cutting edge as one of the most popular and influential DJs on the New York circuit.

Presented in partnership with the **U-M Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives**. Media Partners **WEMU 89.1 FM** and **Michigan Chronicle/Front Page**.

Part of the U-M Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Symposium and the Celebration of African-American Dance.

Ronald K. Brown/Evidence

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16, 6 PM
MONDAY, JANUARY 17, 8 PM
Power Center

Over the past 20 years, Ronald K. Brown has created a movement language that is all his own — modern dance influenced by the fast-paced rhythmic movements of Africa. His dancers' powerful and magnetic physical presence is breathtaking. This is dancing that looks to be a pleasure to perform — spirited, earthy, and very sensual.

PROGRAM (SUN 1/16)
Upside Down (1998) (Choreography by Ron Brown/Music by Sangare & Kuti)
Walking Out the Dark (2001) (Brown/Sweet Honey in the Rock & others)

PROGRAM (MON 1/17)
Upside Down (1998) (Brown/Sangare & Kuti)
Come Ye (2003) (Brown/Nina Simone)
Grace (1999) (Brown/Ellington, Kuti & others)

Made possible in part by **Arts at Michigan**. Funded in part by the **National Dance Project of the New England Foundation for the Arts**. Presented in partnership with the **U-M Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives**. Media Partners **Detroit Jewish News, Michigan Radio/Michigan Television, WEMU 89.1 FM**, and **Michigan Chronicle/Front Page**.

Part of the U-M Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Symposium and the Celebration of African-American Dance.

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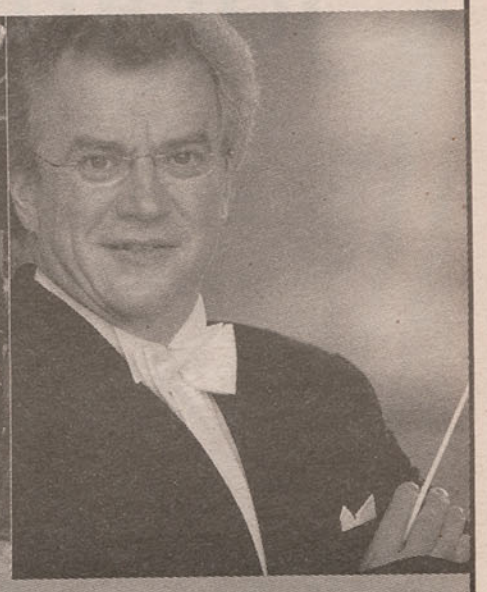

Lahti Symphony with Louis Lortie, piano

Osmo Vänskä, conductor

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 8 PM

Hill Auditorium

Musical America's 2005 Conductor of the Year Osmo Vänskä leads Finland's Lahti Symphony in its UMS debut. The orchestra is joined by the dazzling Canadian pianist Louis Lortie, who made headlines last April for performing two concerts in a single evening: a long-scheduled recital at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and a last-minute substitution for Martha Argerich with the New York Philharmonic at Avery Fisher Hall. "Louis Lortie is "one of a half-dozen pianists worth dropping everything to hear." (*Daily Telegraph*, London)

PROGRAM

Kokkonen	Interludes from *The Last Temptations* (1973-75)
Tchaikovsky	Piano Concerto No. 3 in E-flat Major, Op. 75 (1893)
Prokofiev	Piano Concerto No. 1 in D-flat Major, Op. 10 (1911-12)
Sibelius	Symphony No. 2 in D Major, Op. 43 (1901-02)

Sponsored by **BANK ONE.**

Media Partners **WGTE 91.3 FM** and **Observer & Eccentric Newspapers**.

Audra McDonald and Trio

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, 4 PM

Hill Auditorium

Audra McDonald's soaring, ethereal voice has earned her a reputation as one of the brightest lights Broadway has embraced in ages. The four-time Tony Award-winner returns to Ann Arbor for her third UMS concert after 2000 and 2003. "...a presence and a power that many say comes along once in a lifetime." (*New York Times*)

Supported by **Robert and Pearson Macek**.
Media Partners **WEMU 89.1 FM.**

FREE EDUCATION EVENTS

Sam Shalabi

Community Reception
Wednesday, January 12, following the performance
Oz • 210 S. Fifth Ave.

This all-community reception after Sam Shalabi's performance features local Arab hip-hop artist, The Iron Sheik.

A collaboration with **Oz**.

DJ Spooky's *Rebirth of a Nation*

SYMPOSIUM: Race and Early Film
Sunday, January 9
12:30-3:30 pm Screening of *Birth of a Nation*
3:45-5:00 pm Panel Discussion
7:00-8:30 pm Screening of *Within Our Gates*
Natural Sciences Building Auditorium • 803 N. University Ave.

D.W. Griffith's film *Birth of a Nation* (1915) is seen by many film critics as both a controversial an unashamedly racist piece of propaganda and an American film masterpiece. Despite its iconic status, many universities shy away from showing this film in academic settings because of its troubling subject matter. In advance of DJ Spooky's re-envisioning of this controversial film, this symposium will present *Birth of Nation* in its entirety followed by a panel of film and American culture experts who will discuss and reconstruct the film's importance in our modern cultural landscape. The day will end with a response film, *Within Our Gates* (1920), by noted African-American director Oscar Micheaux.

A collaboration with the **U-M Program in Film and Video Studies, U-M Center for Afroamerican and African Studies**, and **U-M Program in American Culture.**

NETWORK Reception
Friday, January 14, 6:15-7:45 pm
Michigan League Hussey Room and Concourse

This NETWORK reception is hosted by the African American Arts Advocacy Committee prior to the performance of DJ Spooky's *Rebirth of a Nation*. Anyone interested in connecting, socializing and networking with the African American community is invited to attend.

Ronald K. Brown/Evidence

Ronald K. Brown Technique Dance Master Classes
Saturday, January 15, 12 noon-1:30 pm and 1:30-3 pm
Maggie Allesee Dance Studio • Wayne State University
4841 Cass Ave. • Detroit

Members of Ronald K. Brown/Evidence lead this Brown technique class. Moderate to advanced dancers only.

A collaboration with the **Wayne State University Maggie Allesee Department of Dance**.

NETWORK Reception
Sunday, January 16, 4:15-5:45 pm
Michigan League Hussey and Vandenberg Rooms

This NETWORK reception is hosted by the African American Arts Advocacy Committee prior to the performance of Ronald K. Brown/Evidence. Anyone interested in connecting, socializing and networking with the African American community is invited to attend.

SYMPOSIUM AND ARTIST INTERVIEW: African Roots in American Modern Dance
Monday, January 17, 1-4:30 pm
Betty Pease Dance Studio • 1310 N. University Court

For over a century, African movement has been a vital element in the work of African-American choreographers and has a profound impact on American modern dance. This symposium will reflect on how modern dance's most influential black choreographers have used their connection with Africa to propel American modern dance forward over the last century and beyond. Prominent modern dance historian Halifu Osumare of Bowling Green University will present the keynote lecture, "All Over The Place: Black Choreographers in the 21st Century," followed by a lecture on the pioneering African-American choreographer Katherine Dunham by Peggy Godboldo of Marygrove University. The event concludes with a public interview of the legendary choreographer Ronald K. Brown by U-M Associate Dance Professor Robin Wilson.

A collaboration with the **U-M Department of Dance**.

All UMS Education events are free and open to the public. For more information about UMS Education events, call 734.647.6712 or e-mail umsed@umich.edu

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Sunday, January 23, at 4:00 p.m.
Pease Auditorium, Eastern Michigan University
Free Admission

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SEEGER Quartet (1931)
DVOŘÁK Quartet in G Major, Op. 106

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4 TUESDAY EVENTS *continued*

(doors open at 7 p.m.), U-M indoor track, S. State at Hoover. U-M pass ($5 per day) required. 663–9740.

★**Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Club.** *Every Tuesday & Saturday except January 1.* All invited to practice their juggling skills. Beginners welcome. *7:30–9:30 p.m. (Tues.) & 1–3 p.m. (Sat.), location TBA. Free. 222–9803, 761–1115.*

★**"Teens Using Drugs: What to Know and What to Do": Dawn Farm.** *January 4 & 11.* 2-part talk by local social worker Ron Harrison. Today: **"What to Know."** Also this month: **"What to Do"** (January 11). Refreshments, literature. *7:30–9 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off Huron River Dr.). Free. 973–7892.*

★**Ann Arbor Camera Club.** *January 4, 18, & 25.* Today: speaker and topic TBA. Also, club members show their recent slides. Also this month: club member Ed Siokafus presents a slide-illustrated talk on **"The Polar Bears of Churchill, Manitoba,"** and club members show their recent prints (January 18), and the club's **Digital Study Group** discusses topics TBA (January 25). *7:30 p.m., Forsythe Middle School, room 310, 1655 Newport Rd. at Sunset. Free ($10 annual dues for those who join). 449–4974.*

★**Introduction to Anthroposophy: Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America.** Informal monthly talk on our relationship to the cosmos as described by Rudolf Steiner. Today, Anthroposophical Society of America administrative director Jean Yeager discusses **"Who Weaves the Tapestry of Your Life?"** *7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes Ave. Free. Wheelchair-accessible. 485–3764.*

★**Spanish Readers Group: Nicola's Books.** All invited to join a discussion, in Spanish, of ***El Siglo del Viento (The Century of the Wind),*** Uruguayan writer Eduardo Galeano's epic alternative history of the Americas. Note new location. *7:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 662–4110.*

★**German Speakers' Round Table.** *Every Tuesday.* All German speakers invited for conversation. *8 p.m., Grizzly Peak Brewing Co., 120 W. Washington. Free admission. 665–2931.*

Tuesday Night Dancers. *Every Tuesday.* Ballroom dancing to live music by Detroit-area bands. Includes fox-trots, waltzes, Latin and swing dancing, and more. Singles and couples welcome. Refreshments. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a dance lesson ($5). Dress code observed. *8–10 p.m., Grotto Club of Ann Arbor, 2070 W. Stadium. $6. (517) 787–6367, (517) 592–5771.*

Marc Cohn: The Ark. See 3 Monday. Sold out. 8 p.m.

★**"Triple Double Trivia": The Arena Sports Grille and Bar.** *Every Tuesday.* All invited to try a wide-ranging trivia quiz for such prizes as T-shirts, hats, and gift certificates. Bonus points awarded for "stupid human tricks" like drinking beer upside down, dancing to Michael Jackson songs, or inserting an entire fist into your mouth. *10 p.m., The Arena, 203 E. Washington. Free. 222–9999.*

"Tuesday Tickler": The Heidelberg Club Above. *Every Tuesday.* Short sets by a variety of area and regional stand-up comics. If you'd like to perform, contact emcee Brian Cook at BCook@umich.edu at least 5 days in advance. *10 p.m.–midnight, Club Above (3rd floor of the Heidelberg), 215 N. Main. $5 at the door only. 663–5578.*

FILMS

MTF. "Kinsey" (Bill Condon, 2004). See 1 Saturday. Mich., times TBA. **"Beyond the Sea"** (Kevin Spacey, 2004). See 1 Saturday. Mich., times TBA.

5 WEDNESDAY

★**Wednesday Winter Ride: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Wednesday.* The assembled riders choose their own pace, distance, and destination. *11 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 994–5908 & 663–4498 (today's ride), 913–9851 (general information).*

North Wood: Margaret Waterman Alumnae Town Hall Celebrity Lecture Series. Talk by this concert violinist, whose presentations feature several violin pieces followed by an inspirational talk about visualizing success. Includes lunch. All proceeds benefit a U-M student scholarship fund. *11:30 a.m., Michigan League Ballroom. Tickets $40 in advance only. 663–1899.*

★**Northeast Seniors Band: U-M Turner Geriatrics Center.** *Every Wednesday.* All seniors invited to bring their instruments and sit in with the band. *Noon–2 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9350.*

★**"Art Videos": U-M Museum of Art.** *Every Wednesday.* In conjunction with the current exhibit *Art of the Written Word in the Middle East.* Today's double bill: ***The Torchbearers*** examines the role of

Islamic scholarship in bridging the fall of Rome and the European Renaissance, and ***The Pattern of Beauty*** explores the visual arts of the Islamic world. Also this month: ***Introduction to the Arab World*** (January 12) gives an overview of the Arabic world's history and cultural traditions, ***The Shifting Sands*** (January 19) traces the history of the Middle East from early civilization through the Persian Gulf War, and in ***The Arab World*** (January 26) Bill Moyers probes the diversity and major historical periods of the Arab world. *12:10 p.m., UMMA audiovisual room, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 763–UMMA.*

★**Chess and Euchre: U-M Turner Geriatrics Center.** *Every Wednesday.* All seniors invited to play chess or euchre. Refreshments. *1–4 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9350.*

★**"Beyond Antiquity: The Classical Ideal from Late Medieval England to Petrarch, Poussin, and Wren": U-M Classics Department.** Panel discussion with U-M architecture and adjunct history professor Lydia Soo, MSU history professor Christopher Celenza, University of Bristol history professor James Clarke, and University of Chicago art history professor Richard Neer. *5–7 p.m., 2175 Angell Hall. Free. 936–6099.*

★**Runner's Clinic: Michigan Sports Medicine and Orthopedic Center.** *Every Wednesday.* Runners of all ability levels invited to chat with and quiz orthopedic surgeon John Anderson, physical therapist Pete Kitto, podiatrist Brad Seel, Tortoise & Hare reps Matt and Monica Holappa, and a rep from Great Lakes Orthotics. Bring running shoes, shorts, and questions about any aspect of running. *5 p.m., MSMOC, Arbor Park Office Center, 4972B W. Clark Rd. (southwest side of the Clark & Golfside intersection), Ypsilanti. Free. 434–3020.*

★**Ann Arbor Toastmasters Club.** *Every Wednesday.* Members give speeches and are critiqued by their audience. *Note:* Different Toastmasters chapters meet every Monday & Thursday (see listings). *6:15–7:45 p.m., 102 Krieger Hall, Concordia University, 4090 Geddes Rd. Free to visitors. Dues: $24 semiannually. 995–7351.*

Ann Arbor Bridge Club. *Every Wednesday.* Each 2-person team plays 2 or 3 hands against a dozen or so other pairs during the evening. Players at all levels welcome. If you plan to come without a partner, call in advance or arrive 20 minutes early to arrange for one. *7–11 p.m., Walden Hills Clubhouse, 2114 Pauline at Maple. (Park on the north side of Pauline.) $3 per person. 971–7530.*

★**Transcendental Meditation Introductory Session: Maharishi Vedic School.** *Every Wednesday.* Ann Arbor TM director Carol Lubetkin introduces this simple, natural meditation technique for creativity, happiness, and fulfillment. *7 p.m., location TBA. Free. 996–8686.*

★**Huron Valley Model Builders.** All invited to join a show-and-tell discussion. Bring your models built from scratch or from kits, including cars, tanks, boats, airplanes, spacecraft, figures, and more. *7 p.m., Lakeview Mobile Home Park clubhouse, 9910 Geraldine, Ypsilanti Twp. (take I-94 to Huron St. exit and head south, turn left on Textile, turn right on Bunton). Free. 481–1044.*

★**Westside Writers Group: Nicola's Books.** All invited to join group members to read and discuss excerpts of each other's work (bring some of your own). Also, signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 971–5763.*

★**Shamanic Journeys: Magical Education Council.** *Every Wednesday.* Using special postures, participants enter a meditative state to the beat of a shaman's drum and discuss their experiences afterward. *7:30 p.m., Inter-Cooperative Council Education Center, 1522 Hill (in the carriage house behind the co-op buildings). Free. 665–3522.*

★**Visitors Night: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club.** All invited to check out the trains whizzing around on the club's big, elaborate layout, housed in a depot restored by the club. *7:30–10 p.m., Michigan Central Depot, 3487 Broad St., Dexter. Free. 426–5100.*

★**Children's Storytime: Barnes & Noble.** *Every Wednesday & Thursday.* Storytelling programs and craft activities for kids ages 5–8 (Wednesday) & 2–5 (Thursday). *7:30 p.m. (Wed.) & 11 a.m. (Thurs.), Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**"Effective C#: 50 Specific Ways to Improve Your C#": Liberty Borders.** Bill Wagner discusses his guide to the computer programming language C#. Also, signing. *7:30–9:30 p.m., Liberty Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668–7652.*

★**Meditation: Karma Thegsum Choling.** *Every Wednesday.* All invited to join an hour of meditation in the Karma Kargyu tradition. Instruction for beginning meditators available at 7 p.m. by appointment. *7:30–8:30 p.m., KTC, 614 Miner (off Miller). Free. 761–7495, 678–7549.*

★**Romance Readers Group: Barnes & Noble.** All invited to join a discussion of ***Blue Dahlia,*** Nora Roberts's novel about a recently widowed Michigan woman who moves with her 2 young boys to Memphis, where she rents a house on a haunted estate and takes a job in a quaint nursery whose landscape designer attracts her attention. Refreshments. *7:30 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**"Introduction to Steiner's Thought": Rudolf Steiner Study Circle of Ann Arbor.** *Every Wednesday.* All invited to discuss one of Rudolf Steiner's basic anthroposophical books, *The Secret Stream. 8–9:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes. Free. 485–3764.*

"Jeff Daniels: Onstage & Unplugged": Purple Rose Theater Company. *December 28–31 & January 5–8.* Playwright and Purple Rose founder Daniels, who, it turns out, is also a singer-songwriter, performs folk-flavored originals that may include such favorites as "If William Shatner Can, I Can, Too," "The Lifelong Tiger Fan Blues," "State Trooper," and "Recreational Vehicle," interspersed with chats about how each song came to be. Also, stories from Daniels's career in film. Mature audiences. A benefit for Purple Rose. *8 p.m., Garage Theater, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Tickets $50 (Dec. 28–30 & Jan. 5–8), $60 (Dec. 31 matinee), $75 (Dec. 31 eve.) in advance and at the door. (The Jan. 6 show is sold out.) 433–ROSE.*

"Comedy Jamm Night": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Every Wednesday.* Performances by aspiring stand-up comics and by established area pros coming out to work on new material. The show concludes with a performance by the improv troupe **Beer Money.** Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $5 in advance and at the door. 996–9080.*

Swing Dancing: Michigan Union Arts & Programs. Swing dancing to recorded music. Preceded by beginning (7:30 p.m.) and intermediate (8:30 p.m.) dance lessons. No partner required. *Note:* People not affiliated with the U-M are not admitted to the Michigan Union after 9 p.m., but if you arrive before then, you may remain through the end of the evening. *9:30 p.m.–midnight, Michigan Union ballroom. $4 (student $3) at the door. 763–3202.*

FILMS

MTF. "Kinsey" (Bill Condon, 2004). See 1 Saturday. Mich., times TBA. **"Beyond the Sea"** (Kevin Spacey, 2004). See 1 Saturday. Mich., times TBA.

6 THURSDAY

★**"MLK 2005": 18th Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Symposium (U-M Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives).** The first in a series of events this month commemorating King's legacy begins with a keynote lecture by Minneapolis Community Foundation CEO **Emmett Carson** on ways philanthropists and foundations can promote King's ideals. Other events occur on January 12, 19, 25–27, & 30 (see listings). For a complete schedule, see www.mlksymposium.umich.edu/. *10 a.m., various campus locations. Free. 763–4214.*

★**Thursday Lunch Bunch: Jewish Community Center.** *Every Thursday.* A weekly program of activities primarily for seniors. The program begins at 10 a.m. with **"Fitness Fun,"** a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar. At 11 a.m., an educational or cultural presentation. Today: Roza Polonskaya, who is 100 years old, discusses her memoir of her life in Czarist and Communist Russia. Also this month: EMU history professor Michael Homel discusses **"How the Great Depression and the New Deal Changed America and Changed Me"** (January 13), local social worker Phyllis Herzig presents a workshop on the Jewish tradition of writing an **"Ethical Will"** (January 20), and Beth Israel Congregation rabbi Robert Dobrusin presents **"Say a Bracha (Blessing)"** (January 27), a talk on the meaning of blessings in Jewish tradition. Also, at noon, a homemade dairy lunch ($3 with reservation, $4 without reservation and for nonseniors). The program concludes with the **Current Events** discussion group (1–2 p.m.) and (except January 20) a meeting of the **Senior Literary Group** (2:15–3:15 p.m.), a book discussion group led by U-M Dearborn English professor emeritus Sidney Warschausky. The JCC Play Reading Group meets January 20 (see listing). All invited. *10 a.m.–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

ACBL Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Thursday.* All seniors age 50 & older invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. No partner required. *Noon–4 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $3 (nonresidents, $4). 769–5911.*

★**Gifts of Art: U-M Hospitals.** *Every Thursday.* Performances by area and guest artists. Today: Dance performance by the **Oh Be Joyful** youth dance troupe. Also this month: classic jazz by the **Chris Smith Trio** (January 13), gospel music by a **UMHS staff choir** (January 20), and scenes from Wild Swan Theater's production of ***Frog and Toad*** (January 27). *12:10 p.m., U-M Hospital lobby, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. (off Fuller). Free. 936–ARTS.*

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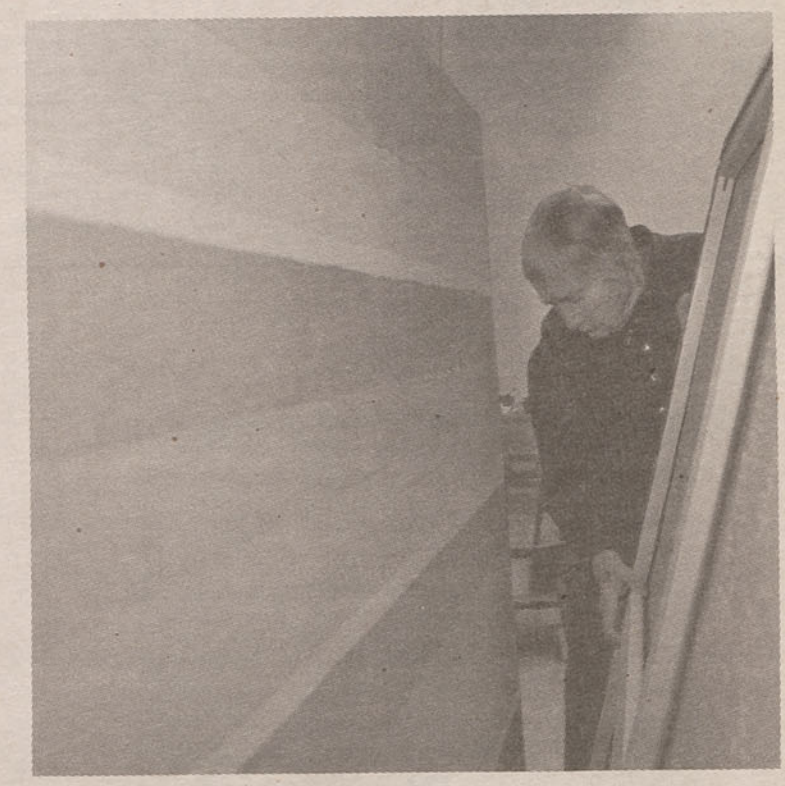

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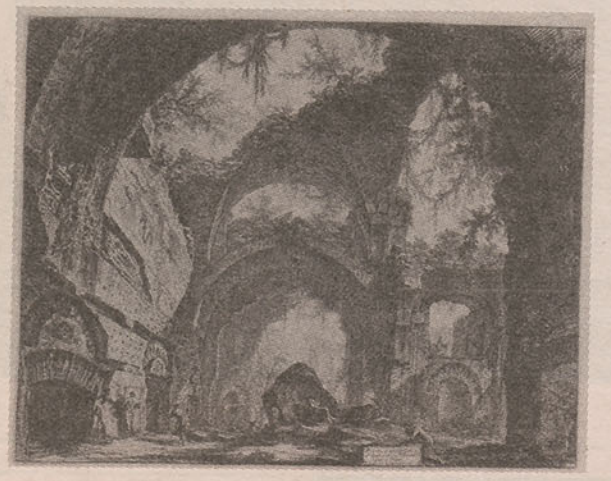

January 10–February 18, 2005
Institute for the Humanities, University of Michigan

Opening reception and gallery talk by Bruce W. Frier
January 12, 4:30–6:30 pm

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6 THURSDAY EVENTS *continued*

★**"Digital Camera 101": Ann Arbor District Library.** *January 6 & 7.* Hands-on 2-part introduction to various types of digital cameras, how to use them, and how to customize and e-mail digital photos. *1–3 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free (AADL noncardholders, $10). Preregistration required. 327–8367.*

★**"Access Soapbox": Ann Arbor Community Television Network.** *Every Thursday.* A chance to express your views, discuss your activities, or announce upcoming events on the local public access station (cable channel 17). Participants are free to talk about anything they wish within CTN guidelines: no direct solicitation of funds, no lottery information, and no material that is obscene, defamatory, invasive of personal privacy, or infringing on copyrights or trademarks. Limited to 5 minutes, each segment features 1 or 2 speakers (with no more than 2 graphics) who talk directly to the camera. Production crew provided by CTN. *Access Soapbox* shows are aired daily for 1 week, beginning on Sunday. *2–7 p.m., CTN studio, LL114 Edison Center, 425 S. Main. Free. Reservations accepted Tues.–Fri. of the week preceding your appearance. 769–7422.*

★**Teen Advisory Council: Ann Arbor District Library.** All teens invited to discuss and plan programs for teens at the library. Refreshments. *6:30–8 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**Ann Arbor FrontRunners.** *Every Tuesday & Thursday.* Gay, lesbian, and straight runners invited to choose a distance of 3–5 miles to run with FrontRunners members. *6:30 p.m., meet at Maiden Lane and Fuller in Fuller Park. Free. 741–1763.*

★**"Women Running Fit": Two Dogs Running.** *Every Thursday.* All women invited to run a different course, 2–6 miles, each week. Directed by a certified running coach. Maps provided. Runners who accumulate 50 miles receive a "Damsel 'n d' Street" T-shirt from Running Fit. Men also invited to run. Also, occasional postrun pizza outings. *6:30 p.m. (sign up at 6:15 p.m.), Running Fit, 123 E. Liberty. Free (men, $1). 657–0214.*

★**"Information about Cohousing."** *January 6 & 17.* All invited to learn more about cohousing, a term for a close-knit, resident-planned housing development whose design emphasizes green-space preservation and neighborliness. *7 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 663–5516.*

★**"Geodes": Huron Hills Lapidary Society.** Join club members for an informal discussion of these sparkly balls of wonder. Bring a geode. You may also bring mysterious rocks for Bill Barr, the group's resident mineralogist, to identify. *7 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh St. Free. 434–8517.*

★**Mothers & More.** *January 6 & 20.* Discussion group for moms who have adjusted their careers to spend more time with their children. Today: a **"Post-Holiday De-Stressor"** party. Also this month: join club members for a group discussion on **"Planning and Caring for Aging Parents"** (January 20). *7–9 p.m., location TBA (Jan. 6) and Gladwin Meeting Place, 4105 West Liberty just west of Wagner (Jan. 20). Free. 975–2938.*

★**Washtenaw Toastmasters.** *Every Thursday.* Members develop public-speaking skills and self-confidence in a supportive environment. Different Toastmasters chapters meet Mondays and Wednesdays (see listings). *7–9 p.m., 4205 Washtenaw. Free to visitors. Dues: $52 a year (after a onetime nonrefundable fee of $16). 572–9978.*

"Circles of Prophecy": Crystal Clear Expressions. Psychic Nanci Rose Gerler channels empowering spiritual messages from various masters, guides, and angels. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore meeting room, 114 S. Main. $20. Reservations requested. 996–8799.*

Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers. *Every Thursday.* Instruction for intermediate-level dancers in a wide range of traditional and contemporary Scottish dances, followed by social dancing. Soft-soled shoes recommended. Refreshments. *7:30–9:30 p.m., the barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver (off Nixon). $4. 769–4324, 426–0241.*

★**Renaissance Dances: Bedlam.** *January 6, 20, & 27.* Beginning to experienced dancers invited to try English country dances, 15th- and 16th-century Italian dances, bransles, pavanes, almans, and more. Instruction provided. Wear comfy clothes and shoes. *8–11 p.m., Michigan League Room D. Free. 971–1809.*

★**Ann Arbor Ski Club.** *January 6 & 20.* All invited to learn about the club's downhill and cross-country ski and snowboarding outings and other social activities. Meetings are followed by a **dance.** Also, on January 20, bring an hors d'oeuvre for an hors d'oeuvre party and a gift for a child or senior. Must be 21 or older. *8–11 p.m., Cobblestone Farm barn, 2781 Packard. Free. 761–3419.*

"A Michigan Songwriters Festival": The Ark. Several of the best Ann Arbor–based singer-songwriters perform original songs about Michigan. With **Jay Stielstra, Chris Buhalis, Eric Kelly, Jo Serrapere, Jim Roll, Dave Boutette, Mike Boyd, John Latini, Mike Kerwin, Tim and Jamie Monger** of the Great Lakes Myth Society, **Delta 88, Steppin' in It, Paul's Big Radio,** and more. Proceeds benefit the Washtenaw Land Trust. *8 p.m., The Ark. $12.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat": Ann Arbor Civic Theater. *January 6–9.* Wendy Sielaff directs local actors in Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's popular rock musical based on the biblical story of Joseph. The favorite son of the prophet Jacob, Joseph was sold into slavery by his envious brothers but rose to become one of the Pharaoh's key insiders. Though it never achieved the success of the team's earlier *Jesus Christ Superstar,* this is an appealing and good-natured musical with lots of catchy melodies and innocently irreverent lyrics. The cast includes Ray Arceno, Amanda Brown, Eric Beitchman, Michael La Flamme, Ryan Talaska, Andy Ballnik, and Dan Smallwood. *8 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater. Tickets $23 (students & seniors, $21; Thursday $15) in advance and at the door. 971–0605.*

"Jeff Daniels: Onstage & Unplugged": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 5 Wednesday. Sold out. 8 p.m.

Improv Inferno. *Every Thursday.* This new improv club, founded by former Second City member Dan Izzo, offers 2 Thursday night shows. **"The Catfight"** (8 p.m.) is a competition between 2 improv groups, with a different pair of competitors each week. After competitors each present a half hour of their best comedy, the audience selects one as the Baddest Cat in the Fight. **"High Octane"** (10 p.m.) features a show by a different group each week, with a Catfight winner or an established local troupe. Alcohol is served. *8 & 10 p.m., Improv Inferno, 309 S. Main. $5. 214–7080.*

Allyn Ball: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *January 6–8.* Veteran comic with an unreconstructed punk attitude and an intelligently fresh and funny point of view. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Friday early show is a nonsmoking show. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $7 (Thurs.) & $10 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

FILMS

MTF. "Kinsey" (Bill Condon, 2004). See 1 Saturday. Mich., times TBA. **"Beyond the Sea"** (Kevin Spacey, 2004). See 1 Saturday. Mich., times TBA.

7 FRIDAY

★**"Chelsea Winter Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Friday.* Slow/moderate-paced ride, 20–30 miles, to either Dexter or the Waterloo Recreation Area. *9 a.m., meet at Aberdeen Bike & Fitness, 1175 S. Main, Chelsea. Free. (517) 851–8323 & (517) 285–6830 (today's ride), 994–0044 (general information).*

"Space and Time in the Here and Now": IT Zone Creativity Forum. Jan Nichols of Market Arts hosts a discussion on the nature of the universe with U-M astrophysics professor Fred Adams, author of *The Origins of Existence* and coauthor, with Greg Laughlin, of *The Five Ages of the Universe.* Bring a bag lunch. *Noon–1:30 p.m., IT Zone, 330 E. Liberty. $5 (members, free). Preregistration required at annarboritzone.org. 665–9403.*

Bingo/Cribbage: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Friday.* All seniors age 50 & older invited to play cribbage or a variety of styles of bingo. *1–3:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center. $3.25. 769–5911.*

★**Scrabble: U-M Turner Geriatrics Center.** *Every Friday.* All seniors invited to play Scrabble. Refreshments. *1–4 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9350.*

★**Open Card and Board Gaming Night: The Underworld.** *Every Friday.* All invited to play any of the collectible card or board games that the Underworld carries—but you must find your own opponents. *6 p.m.–midnight, Underworld, 1214 South University. Free. 998–0547.*

Psychic Fair: Psychic Visions Network. Area psychics offer readings using tarot, astrology, numerology, crystals, and other methods. Fees vary but are usually around $30 for a 30-minute (or longer) session. *6–11 p.m., Comfort Inn, 2455 Carpenter Rd. $5 admission. 320–7704.*

"Moonlight Serenade": Ann Arbor Parks Department. *January 7, 14, & 21 (weather permitting).* Cross-country skiing on lighted, groomed paths, weather permitting. *6:30–9 p.m., Huron Hills Cross Country Ski Center, 3465 E. Huron River Drive at Huron Pkwy. $5.25. Ski rentals (includes trail fee):*

$15.75 (youths age 17 & under and seniors age 60 & over, $12.75). 971–6840.

Dances of Universal Peace (Sufi Dancing). All invited to join in song, chant, and circle dances in joyous affirmation of the unity of the world's spiritual traditions. *7–9 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. $5 requested donation. 996–1332.*

"FutureStars 2005": Pioneer High School. *January 7, 8, & 15 (different programs).* Tessa Waldheger directs PHS students in 4 different variety shows modeled on Fox TV's talent search show *American Idol*. Tonight: **"Hit the Road"** (7 p.m.), which features songs about driving, and **"Karaoke"** (9:30 p.m.). The audience response determines the winners in each of the 4 categories, who compete in the January 15 finale (see listing). Also, performances by last year's FutureStars winners, **Charles Baxtresser** and **Alexis Merte,** who recently snagged a role on the VH1 reality show *In Search of the Partridge Family*, a valiant attempt to re-create the Partridge magic. *Note:* Only students with ID from area high schools and colleges are admitted to the 9:30 p.m. shows. *7 & 9:30 p.m., PHS Little Theater, 601 W. Stadium at Main. Jan. 7 & 8 tickets $5; Jan. 15 tickets $10 (students, $6) at the door only. 994–2191.*

U-M Women's Gymnastics vs. Nebraska. *7:30 p.m., Cliff Keen Arena, S. State at Hoover. $3 (youths age 12 & under, $1; U-M students, free). 763–2159.*

U-M Ice Hockey vs. WMU. *7:30 p.m., Yost Ice Arena, 1016 S. State at McKinley. $12–$17. 764–0247.*

★**First Friday Shabbat: Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society.** The JCS 6th-grade class leads a Shabbat celebration that includes a game of Jewish Jeopardy. Bring a sweet to pass. All invited. *7:30 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 975–9872.*

★**Advanced Study Group: Rudolf Steiner Study Circle of Ann Arbor.** All invited to join this ongoing study group to discuss Rudolf Steiner's 4th play, *The Soul's Awakening*. Familiarity with Steiner's basic ideas required. *8–9:30 p.m., 33 Ridgeway East (1 block east of the Arb entrance on Geddes). Free. 662–6398.*

1st Friday Square and Contra Dance. John Freeman and David Park Williams call contra, square, and old-timey dances to live music by Licketysplit. All dances taught; no partner necessary. Aspiring callers may preregister to call one dance. This dance "doesn't take itself as seriously as some of the other dances," notes Freeman. "The band's got a sense of humor, and so do I." *8–11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $7 (students, $5) at the door. 662–3371.*

★**Fred Ormand: U-M School of Music.** Recital by this U-M clarinet professor, who is accompanied by a music faculty quartet that includes pianist Christopher Harding, violist Katherine Votapek, soprano Julia Broxholm, and bassoonist Richard Beene. Program: Mozart's Trio in E-flat Major, Brahms's Sonata in E-flat Major, Berio's *Comma*, Horvit's *Three Sonnets of William Shakespeare*, Glinka's *Trio Pathetique*, and other works TBA. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 763–4726.*

The MadHuban Ensemble: Canterbury House. Baritone saxophonist Dan Bennett, a U-M music school grad, leads this ad hoc 9-piece ensemble of regional musicians in avant-garde compositions and improvisations. Other members are guitarist Ryan Mackstaller, bassist Josef Dias, trumpeter Jeff Eliassen, bassist Andrew Epstein, electronic musician Charles Tillinghast, and drummers John Smillie, Justin Walter, and Nick Zielinski. *8 p.m., Canterbury House, 721 E. Huron. $5–$10 donation. 665–0606.*

RFD Boys: The Ark. Authentic bluegrass by these longtime local favorites. They have appeared in numerous festivals and even made the cover of *Bluegrass Unlimited* magazine. Their shows blend top-notch musicianship with funny between-songs dialogue. They have several recordings, including *Live and Unrehearsed*, a 1994 Ark performance. They are joined tonight for part of their show by the **Saline Fiddlers,** a renowned local touring fiddle ensemble that performs traditional American fiddle songs, bluegrass, and high-energy American folk. A benefit for the Ark. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $15 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Jeff Daniels: Onstage & Unplugged": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 5 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat": Ann Arbor Civic Theater. See 6 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Improv Inferno. See 1 Saturday. 8 & 10 p.m.

Allyn Ball: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 6 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Hawthorne Heights: The Blind Pig. Fiery, guitar-driven postpunk hard-rock by this Dayton quintet.

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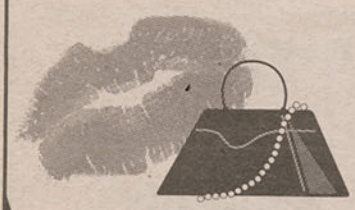

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Opening acts are Chicago-area post-hardcore indie rock quartet **Spitalfield,** the Appleton, Wisconsin, indie rock quartet **Number One Fan,** and the Toronto postpunk rock band **The Black Maria.** *10 p.m.–2 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. Ashley. Tickets $10 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, $12 at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Callas Forever" (Franco Zeffirelli, 2002). *January 1–6.* Fantasy biography about opera diva Maria Callas, who is imagined to come out of retirement in 1977 to make a filmed version of *Carmen*. Fanny Ardant, Jeremy Irons, Joan Plowright. $8.50 (children, students, veterans, & seniors, $6.25; members, $5.50). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA. Other Michigan Theater films TBA.

8 SATURDAY

"Winter Bird Hike": Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. Hudson Mills naturalist Jennifer Hollenbeck leads a hike through a variety of habitats to discover what bird species are in the park. Bring binoculars and a field guide. *8 a.m., Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. $2. (Park entry fee: $4 per vehicle.) Preregistration required. 426–8211.*

★**Restoration Work Day: U-M Nichols Arboretum.** All invited to help Arb director Bob Grese and Arb staff members remove invasive plants and prepare new planting sites. Dress for outdoor work. Snacks and tools provided; bring loppers or pruners if you wish. *9 a.m.–noon, meeting location TBA. Free. 998–9541.*

Huron Gun Collectors. *January 8 & 9.* Some 100 dealers and collectors offer guns, knives, ammunition, and other hunting equipment, including antiques and collectibles. Food concessions. *9 a.m.–5 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Admission $4. (810) 227–1637.*

★**Materials Recovery Facility Monthly Open House: Ann Arbor Solid Waste Department.** *January 8 & 11.* Guided tours of the city's recycling and trash disposal center. Also, make a colorful windcatcher with recycled parachute cloth from the Scrap Box. *10 a.m.–noon (Jan. 8) & 3–5 p.m. (Jan. 11), Materials Recovery Facility, 4120 Platt Rd. Free. 994–2807.*

★**"Misuse of Corporate Power: Wal-Mart, a Case Study": Gray Panthers of Huron Valley.** Showing of this video, followed by discussion. Refreshments. All invited. *10 a.m.–noon, U-M Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 975–0861.*

★**"Release the Hounds!": Ann Arbor Canine Social Club.** All invited to meet other dog owners as dogs play off-leash in this dog park. Hot chocolate provided. *11 a.m.–1 p.m., Mill Pond Park, ½ mile west of the corner of US-12 & Ann Arbor St., Saline. Free. 761–8500.*

★**Storytime: Nicola's Books.** *Every Saturday except January 1.* Storytelling program for kids ages 2½–7. Also, a visit from the beautiful bat Stellaluna after the January 15 storytime. *11 a.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 662–4110.*

★**American Girl Club: Barnes & Noble.** All girls ages 7–12 invited to delve into the world of the American Girl collection of historical dolls. This month's discussion is ***Changes for Felicity: A Winter Story,*** Valerie Tripp's story, set on the eve of the American Revolution, about a spunky, sprightly 10-year-old girl growing up in colonial Williamsburg. *11 a.m., Barnes & Noble, 3245 Washtenaw. Free. Preregistration required. 973–0846.*

Draw Doubles: Ann Arbor Area Disc Induced Sports Club. *Every Saturday except January 1.* All invited to play disc golf at one of Hudson Mills Metropark's 24-hole disc golf courses. Disc golf is a popular sport played with a Frisbee-like disc; the goal is to land the disc in a "pole hole" in the fewest shots. In draw doubles play, beginners are paired with advanced players to create parity. Prizes. Golf discs available free from the Hudson Mills Metropark office. *11 a.m., Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. $4 per player; free for spectators. (Park entry fee: $4 per vehicle.) 434–1615.*

★**Pickup Game: Ann Arbor Ultimate.** *Every Saturday except January 1.* All invited to join a pickup game of this spirited team sport played with a flying disc. *11:30 a.m., Fuller Field. Free. info@a2ultimate.org.*

★**Matthew Locricchio: Whole Foods Market.** This New York–based chef prepares recipes from his new cookbook, ***The International Cookbook for Kids.*** Followed by a signing at Barnes and Noble (around 1:15 p.m. or so). *Noon–1 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking and Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw Ave. Free. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

★**"Hiking Hickory Hills": Waterloo Recreation Area.** Waterloo Recreation Area park interpreter Kathy Kavanagh leads a hike through a hilly mature forest and discusses the history of the area. *2–3 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd., Chelsea. (Take I-94 west to exit 157, follow Pierce Rd. north to Bush Rd., and go west on Bush Rd. The Discovery Center is on the left.) Free. Preregistration required. $6 vehicle entry fee, unless you already have a state motor vehicle permit ($24 per year). 475–3170.*

★**Vocal Arts Day Final Concert: U-M School of Music.** Visiting high school students from around Michigan join the U-M Men's and Women's Glee Clubs in a program TBA. *4 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 763–4726.*

★**Open House: University Lowbrow Astronomers.** *January 8 & 15.* A chance to join local astronomy buffs for a look at the sky through instruments at the Peach Mountain Observatory. The observatory's huge, 24-inch McMath telescope is operational, but participants are nevertheless encouraged to bring their own telescopes. Visitors must turn off all electronic equipment (car radios, transmitters, phones, etc.) at the observatory entrance. Program canceled if sky is overcast at sunset or if the weather is extremely inclement. *5:30 p.m.–12:30 a.m. (as long as the sky remains clear), Peach Mountain Observatory, North Territorial Rd. (about 1¼ miles west of Hudson Mills Metropark), Dexter. Free. 332–9132.*

★**Open Role-Playing Gaming Night: The Underworld.** *Every Saturday except January 1.* All invited to play any of the role-playing games that the Underworld carries, but you must find your own opponents. *6 p.m.–midnight, The Underworld, 1214 South University. Free. 998–0547.*

★**"Traps!": Dreamland Theater.** Opening party for this exhibit (see Galleries) of works by local artists Nicole Parker, Jason Starin, Trevor Stone, and Chris Sandon. With local DJs and musicians TBA, and an artist in a bear suit who would like to dance with you. *7 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross, Depot Town, Ypsilanti. Free. 657–2337.*

Taboo Tournament: The Neutral Zone. All invited to form 2- to 4-person teams to compete in this popular fast-paced word guessing game. $100 prize for the winning team. *7–11 p.m., The Neutral Zone, 637 S. Main. $5. 214–9995.*

"FutureStars 2004": Pioneer High School. See 7 Friday. Tonight: **"Now Showing"** (7 p.m.) features songs from current Broadway shows, and **"Get Your Groove On"** (9:30 p.m.) features songs about sex. 7 & 9:30 p.m.

U-M Men's Basketball vs. Fairfield. *8 p.m., Crisler Arena. $15 & $22. 764–0247.*

Ballroom Dancing Night: Pittsfield Township Parks and Recreation Department. Ballroom dancing to recorded music from the 40s through the 80s. Preceded at 7 p.m. by an introduction to basic dance steps and ballroom dancing styles by Sue Bareis, Washtenaw County's best-known ballroom dance instructor. All invited, singles as well as couples. Refreshments. *8–10:30 p.m., Pittsfield Twp. Recreation Hall, S. State at Ellsworth. $4. 822–2120.*

2nd Saturday Contra Dance. With caller Don Theyken and the Sharon Hollow String Band. No partner needed. Beginners welcome. *8–11 p.m., Webster Community Hall, across from Webster Church on Webster Church Rd. (1 mile south of North Territorial), Dexter. $8. 996–8359.*

★**Aaron Berofsky: U-M School of Music.** Recital by this U-M violin professor, who is accompanied by 2 U-M music professors, pianist Katherine Collier and violinist Kathryn Votapek. The program includes works by Mozart and Prokofiev. *8 p.m., U-M Music*

fiction

Stefan Kiesbye
The poisoned well

Small presses still have a function. In a time of creeping homogeneity, perhaps they have even a greater function than ever before. They look farther and deeper into our culture to find new writers doing interesting things that might fall outside the mainstream categories. Although novellas—that wonderfully odd form somewhere between a long story and a short novel—do get collected from time to time, they remain difficult things to see into print. Low Fidelity Press, a new little press in Brooklyn, New York, has decided to publish novellas with an edge. The first winner of its first contest is EMU lecturer Stefan Kiesbye, an M.F.A. graduate of the U-M.

Kiesbye's beautifully written and deeply troubling novella, *Next Door Lived a Girl,* seems to present itself as a coming-of-age story. A group of adolescent boys in a bleak German industrial town form their own small gang. They worry about a rival gang, move on their bicycles through the towns and countryside, explore abandoned World War II bunkers that litter the woods, and have the expected sexual fantasies. Kiesbye is particularly good at capturing the uncertain but heightened sensations of the first moves toward intimacy. Here is Moritz, his protagonist, describing the moment just before his first kiss:

> *My teeth chatter and I can feel every object in the room. The teapot behind me, the posters and stickers, the record-player in my back, everything has come to life. Like someone who hasn't drunk in days and arrives at a well, knowing it's poisoned, I bring my lips closer. Closer I move my shivering lips and drink.*

Buried in what might seem a sweet little scene is a clue to Kiesbye's darker vision: the first-time lovers already know that this well is poisoned.

There is a darkness behind these ordinary lives, a violence waiting to surface at a moment's notice. These seeming innocents can explode into brutal assaults on their rivals; they have no compunctions about random attacks and thievery. They try to care for a damaged wild child, but they make all the wrong choices, keeping her isolated in their hidden bunker as a kind of carefully tended plaything.

Although, with Kiesbye's portrayal of violence, *Next Door Lived a Girl* would not be a book for every reader, his sense that a cold brutality lies beneath the surface of everyday life makes this little book genuinely disturbing. When the violence surfaces here, it is indeed shocking, but it also seems, as Charles Baxter has noted, inevitable. That I respond that way makes me question my own platitudes again.

Stefan Kiesbye reads from *Next Door Lived a Girl* at the Ladies' Literary Club in Ypsilanti on Wednesday, January 12.

—*Keith Taylor*

School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 763–4726.

Kimberly Aseltine, Eva Stern, and Joel Schoenhals: Kerrytown Concert House. The local trio of clarinetist Aseltine, violist Stern, and pianist Schoenhals performs chamber music for this unusual instrumental combination. Program: Mozart's playful and tender Trio in E-flat Major, Schumann's lovely *Fairy Tales*, and Max Bruch's Brahms-influenced Eight Pieces. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets $10, $15, & $25 (students, $5) in advance and at the door. 769–2999.*

Siegel-Schwall Band: The Ark. Legendary Chicago blues band whose country-folk flavored brand of Southside blues helped spark the blues revival of the 60s and early 70s. Led by harmonica genius Corky Siegel and guitarist Jim Schwall, the current lineup also includes former Little Walter and Howlin' Wolf drummer Sam Lay and bassist Rollo Bradford. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $22.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Jeff Daniels: Onstage & Unplugged": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 5 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat": Ann Arbor Civic Theater. See 6 Thursday. 2 (children's matinee) & 8 p.m.

Allyn Ball: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 6 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Improv Inferno. *Every Friday & Saturday.* 2 shows. **The "Damnation Game"** (8 p.m.) features a competition among 6 improv comics playing silly improv games, a la *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* Each comic competes on behalf of 6 audience members for such fabulous prizes as a mealtime supply of Rice-a-Roni. When Improv Inferno founder Dan Izzo premiered the Damnation Game in Chicago, a *New City Magazine* critic called it "good fun." Ages 18 & older admitted. Also, **"The X Show"** (10 p.m.), an hour of uncensored improv. The club rates the 8 p.m. show PG-13, the 10 p.m. show R. *8 & 10 p.m., Improv Inferno, 309 S. Main. Tickets $10 (8 p.m.) & $5 (10 p.m.) in advance and at the door. 214–7080.*

2nd Saturday Swing Dance: Grand Traditions Vintage Dance Academy. Dancing to recorded jump blues, swing, and big-band music. All welcome; no partner necessary. Preceded at 7:30 p.m. by lessons ($5). *8:30–11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $5 (dance with lesson, $7). 213–0537.*

Alberta Adams: The Firefly Club. This veteran Detroit blues shouter and balladeer has toured with everyone from Louis Jordan and LaVern Baker to Duke Ellington and Roy Eldridge. She is backed by **R.J.'s Rhythm Rockets,** a Detroit blues band led by drummer R. J. Spangler. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. $10 in advance and at the door. 665–9090.*

The Dirtbombs: The Blind Pig. Iconoclastic, versatile postpunk garage rock by this Detroit band led by former Gories frontman Mick Collins. "Collins & Co. are equal-opportunity musical omnivores steeped in the sound of Detroit's FM-radio glory days, and *Noise* busts out like power pop on 'roids," says *Spin* writer Chris Handyside in his review of the band's new CD. Opening acts are **The Paybacks,** a Detroit garage band led by former WCBN "Blastoff Girl" Wendy Case, and **The Avatars,** a local garage rock band. *10 p.m.–2 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. Ashley. Tickets $10 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

FILMS

MTF. "Callas Forever" (Franco Zeffirelli, 2002). See 7 Friday. Mich., times TBA. Other Michigan Theater films TBA.

9 SUNDAY

★Introductory Dharma Talk: Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. *Every Sunday beginning January 9.* Talk by **Gehlek Rimpoche,** an incarnate lama from Tibet who lives in Ann Arbor. Occasionally, the talk is given by one of Gehlek's senior students. *10–11 a.m., Jewel Heart Buddhist Center, 207 E. Washington. Free, but donations are accepted. 994–3387.*

"Ice Fishing": Ann Arbor Parks Department. All invited (weather permitting) to try their hand at ice fishing. Bait and (if you don't have your own) equipment provided; ice holes drilled for free. Cocoa & coffee provided. *1–4 p.m., Gallup Park canoe livery, 3000 Fuller Rd. (west side of Huron Pkwy.). $6 (nonresidents, $7.50). Preregistration required. 662–9319.*

★"The Mommy Myth: The Idealization of Motherhood and How It Has Undermined Women": Ann Arbor District Library "Sunday Edition." U-M communications professor **Susan Douglas** discusses

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the book she cowrote with Meredith Michaels. Bring a bag lunch; coffee and tea provided. Taped for repeat broadcasts on cable channel 17. *1–2 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

"Ice Age": U-M Exhibit Museum. Screening of Chris Wedge's 2002 animated film about 3 Ice Age mammals—a saber-toothed tiger, a sloth, and a woolly mammoth—who find a lost human baby and try to return it to its home. Followed by a discussion led by Slauson Middle School science teacher Jeffrey Bradley. *1:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. $8.50 (Michigan Theater members, $5.50; Exhibit Museum members, $3; MTF Not Just for Kids season subscribers, free). 764–0478, 668–TIME.*

★**"Open Rehearsal": Dance Gallery Studio.** All invited to watch the Peter Sparling Dance Company rehearse *PSDC/SOLOS*, a new series of 7 solos celebrating the solo form as practiced by everyone from shamans to Elvis Presley. Refreshments. *2–4 p.m., Dance Gallery Studio, 815 Wildt St. Free. 747–8885.*

★**23rd Annual Unity March and Rededication: Second Baptist Church.** All invited to join a march from the courthouse to the Second Baptist Church on Red Oak for a memorial service (4 p.m.) honoring Martin Luther King Jr. Music by the Second Baptist Choir and remarks by speakers TBA. Refreshments. Shuttle available back downtown from the church. *2 p.m., meet at Washtenaw County Courthouse, Main at Huron. Free. 663–9369.*

★**"Multifloral Paphiopedilum": Ann Arbor Garden Club.** Orchid Inn USA owner Sam Tsui discusses these dainty "lady's slipper" orchids found in the Far East. *2 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 480–7751.*

★**"Kerry Tales: Snow and Colds with Mother Goose": Kerrytown Shops.** 30-minute family-oriented program of rhymes, riddles, and rollicking fun, with local storyteller Trudy Bulkley as Mother Goose. *2 p.m., Hollander's (Kerrytown), 407 N. Fifth Ave. Free. 769–3115.*

★**"Oral History": Pittsfield Township Historical Society.** A club member TBA conducts an oral interview with a longtime Pittsfield resident TBA. Q&A. *2 p.m., Pittsfield Community Center, 701 W. Ellsworth. Free. 429–4517.*

★**"Poets in the Round": Ann Arbor Senior Center.** All invited to take turns reading 2 or 3 favorite poems of their own or by another poet. Also, a brief reading by a guest poet TBA. *2–3:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★**Friends of Four-Hand Piano.** Pianists of all abilities invited to bring their music for a casual afternoon of performing duets. An opportunity to meet other pianists and find partners for 4-hand and 2-piano music. Listeners welcome. *2 p.m., location TBA. Free. 485–5007, 971–6261.*

★**Shape Note Singing: The Ark/Ann Arbor Sacred Harp.** All invited to join an afternoon of shape note, or sacred harp, singing, a form of communal hymn singing that has its roots in colonial America. Songbooks available, but singers are encouraged to bring their own. *2–5 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free. 747–9644, 761–1451.*

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat": Ann Arbor Civic Theater. See 6 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★**"The Work of Agnes Martin": U-M Museum of Art.** UMMA contemporary art curator Sean Ulmer gives a slide-illustrated talk on this acclaimed American painter whose work is on exhibit at the UMMA (see Galleries). *3 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 763–UMMA.*

★**"The Song Recital: A Living Art Form": Ann Arbor District Library.** Part of a series of talks, with recorded illustrations, by Ann Arbor District Library music specialist Richard LeSueur. Today he discusses the upcoming UMS song recital by **Stephanie Blythe** (see 13 Thursday listing). *3–4:15 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**"Toshiko Takaezu": Yourist Pottery.** Screening of a video about this Hawaiian-born potter known for elegantly simple stoneware vessels in earth tones. *4 p.m., Yourist Pottery & Design Studio, 1133 Broadway. Free. 662–4914.*

"The Snow Queen in Seven Stories": Dreamland Theater. See 2 Sunday. 4 p.m.

"Eavesdropping at the Collegium": Ann Arbor Academy of Early Music. Local and guest musicians perform a concert similar to those once heard at Hamburg's Collegium Musicum, a 17th-century concert hall founded by composer Matthias Weckmann that presented outstanding contemporary music from Venice, Rome, Vienna, Munich, and Dresden. Performers are New York sackbut player Greg Ingles, New York organist Borys Medicky, local cornettist Kiri Tollaksen, and 2 members of Toronto's acclaimed early music group Tafelmusik, violinist Linda Melsted and bassoonist Dominic Teresi. Program: sonatas by Weckmann, Bertali, Rosenmuller, Schmelzer, and Boddecker. *4 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Tickets $15 (seniors & members, $12; students, $5) at the door only. 665–5758.*

★**Queer Fiction Book Club.** All invited to discuss *The Persian Boy*, Mary Renault's novelized history of Alexander the Great's last years as told through the eyes of his faithful eunuch lover, Bagoas. *4:30–6 p.m., WRAP office, 325 Braun Ct. Free. 663–0036.*

★**"Theology on Tap": St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Outreach Committee.** All invited to join an informal discussion of social, theological, and political issues. Tonight: **"Hearing the Sounds of Silence,"** a talk on the postelection national mood led by U-M English professor Ralph Williams. *6:30 p.m., Arbor Brewing, 116 E. Washington. Free. 213–5378.*

★**"Digital Festivus": U-M Film and Video Studies.** Screening of a variety of short digital movies shot and edited by U-M film studies undergrads. *7–9 p.m., Modern Languages auditorium II, 812 E. Washington. Free. 764–0147.*

"Get Up Stand Up": Improv Inferno. *Every Sunday.* Open mike for up-and-coming local stand-up comics. *8:30 p.m., Improv Inferno, 309 S. Main. Tickets $5 in advance and at the door. 214–7080.*

FILMS

MTF. "Callas Forever" (Franco Zeffirelli, 2002). See 7 Friday. Mich., times TBA. Other Michigan Theater films TBA. **U-M Film and Video Studies. "Birth of a Nation"** (D. W. Griffith, 1915). Griffith's monumental portrait of the Civil War, Reconstruction, and the rise of the Ku Klux Klan. In conjunction with *Rebirth of a Nation* (see 14 Friday listing). Followed by a panel discussion with 6 film and video faculty and grad students. FREE. 764–0147. Natural Sciences Auditorium (830 North University), 12:30–3:30 p.m. **"Within Our Gates"** (Oscar Micheaux, 1920). Harrowing, unblinking portrait of outrages perpetrated against African Americans that includes nearly unwatchable scenes of lynching and rape. In conjunction with *Rebirth of a Nation* (see 14 Friday listing). FREE. Nat. Sci., 7–8:30 p.m.

10 MONDAY

★**Brown Bag Lecture: U-M Institute for the Humanities.** *January 10, 24, & 31.* Talks by various U-M and visiting scholars. Bring a bag lunch. Today: MIT art history professor Erika Naginski discusses **"Building on History: Piranesi and Vico."** In conjunction with the current Institute of the Humanities exhibit, *Piranesi: Selected Etchings from the Collection of Bruce W. Frier* (see Galleries). Also this month: U-M architecture and urban planning lecturer Lars Grabner on **"Detroit: Living Concepts for a Fragmented City"** (January 24) and U-M communications studies chair Susan Douglas on **"The Turn Within: Self-Absorption, the Media, and the Fate of America"** (January 31). *Noon, Osterman Common Room, 0520 Rackham. Free. 936–3518.*

★**Social Duplicate Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** *January 10 & 24.* All seniors age 55 & older invited to play this popular bridge format. No partner required. *12:30–3:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★**Avis Farms Toastmasters.** *January 10 & 24.* Members give speeches and are critiqued by their audience. A chance to develop confidence in speaking publicly. *5:15–7 p.m., 900 Avis Dr., conference room B, off S. State. Free to visitors. Dues: $18 every 6 months (after a onetime nonrefundable fee of $16). 332–1200.*

★**Auditions: Ann Arbor Civic Theater.** *January 10 & 11.* All invited to try out for a part in a March 10–13 production of Thornton Wilder's *Our Town*. *7–10 p.m., Ann Arbor Civic Theater, 322 W. Ann St. Free. 971–2228.*

★**The Barony of Cynnabar.** *Every Monday except January 3.* All invited to join this local chapter of the Society for Creative Anachronism to work on recreating different aspects of medieval culture, including combat, dancing, singing, clothing, and many other arts & crafts. *7 p.m., 1311 EECS, 1301 Beal, North Campus. Free. Information at cynnabar.org.*

★**The Buyer's Agent.** *January 10 & 24.* Real estate professionals lead discussions on first-time home buying. Today: **"The 5 Most Dangerous Trends Facing Home Buyers Today."** Also this month: **"All about Mortgages for First-Time Buyers"** (January 24). *7–8:30 p.m., The Buyer's Agent, 1900 W. Stadium. Free. Preregistration required. 662–6240.*

★**"The Controversy at Five Forks": Ann Arbor Area Civil War Round Table.** Talk by AACWRT member Jim Eberson. *7 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off Huron River Dr.). Free. 930–0617.*

★**"Martin Luther King Jr. Lecture": Ann Arbor District Library.** U-M vice-provost for academic affairs Lester Monts discusses King's legacy. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**"How I Started to Collect Stamps": Ann Arbor Stamp Club.** All invited to join club members for a discussion about stamp collecting, with displays from personal collections (bring yours). *7:30 p.m., Salvation Army, 100 Arbana (park & enter at the rear of the building). Free admission. 761–5859.*

★**"The Road to Self-Sufficiency": National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Washtenaw County.** Panel discussion with 2 Michigan Rehabilitation Services representatives, Ann Arbor field office manager Steve Girardin and social worker Amy Advey, and Fresh Start Clubhouse director Bill Ruterbusch. Moderated by EMU social work professor Marilyn Wedenoja. *7:30–9:30 p.m., St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 2309 Packard. Free. 994–6611.*

★**"A Tribute to a King": 18th Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Symposium (U-M Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives).** Today: U-M students present their original theater production, a series of vignettes tracing civil rights struggles from the 60s to the present. *8–10 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater. Free. 936–1245.*

Johnny Lang: The Ark. *Sold out.* Acoustic band performance by this blues guitar prodigy from Fargo, North Dakota. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $45 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation "American Musicals." *January 10, 17, 24, & 31.* Today: ***Golddiggers of 1935*** (Busby Berkeley, 1935) is a glitzy musical glamfest with a slender story line about a hotel owner trying to raise funds by putting on an over-the-top show. $8.50 (children, students, veterans, & seniors, $6.25; members, $5.50). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, 7 p.m. **"Callas Forever"** (Franco Zeffirelli, 2002). See 7 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

11 TUESDAY

★**Preschool Storytimes: Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Tuesday & Thursday beginning January 11.* Stories and songs for kids age 3 & up (accompanied by an adult). *Note:* These storytimes are also offered at the West Branch, Tuesdays beginning January 11, 10–10:30 a.m. & 2–2:30 p.m.; the Malletts Creek Branch, Wednesdays beginning January 12, 9:30–10 a.m. & 11–11:30 a.m.; and the Northeast Branch, Thursdays beginning January 13, 9:30–10 a.m. & 11–11:30 a.m. *10–10:30 a.m. (Tues.) & 7–7:30 p.m. (Thurs.), AADL youth department story room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–8301.*

★**2-Year-Old Storytimes: Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Tuesday & Wednesday (different branch locations) beginning January 11.* Stories, rhymes, and songs for kids ages 2 & up (accompanied by an adult). *10–10:30 a.m., AADL Northeast Branch (Tuesdays), Plymouth Mall, & 9:30–10 a.m., AADL main library story room (Wednesdays), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4200 (Northeast), 327–8301 (main).*

Distinguished Lecture Series: U-M Turner Geriatric Services Learning in Retirement Program. Fifth in a series of 9 monthly lectures by different U-M scholars. Open to anyone age 55 & older. Today: U-M physics professor emeritus Marc Ross discusses **"Energy and Environment Policy: Reducing the Threat Associated with Driving."** Other topics in this extremely varied series range from Neolithic humans to the history of the U-M Arboretum. *10–11:30 a.m., Best Western Conference Center, 2900 Jackson Rd. $45 (LIR members, $30) for the 9-lecture series, $25 (LIR members, $10) per lecture. LIR memberships are $15 a year. 998–9351.*

★**"Successful Aging: A Study of Language, Cognition, and Social Contact in People over 85": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender.** Talk by U-M linguistics professor Deborah Keller-Cohen. *Noon–1:30 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 764–9537.*

Open House: U-M Detroit Observatory. *January 11 & 18.* Docent-guided tour of the photographs and artifacts in this restored 19th-century observatory museum. Also, a chance to pull the rope that rotates the telescope dome. *1–4 p.m., U–M Detroit Observatory, 1398 E. Ann at Observatory. $5 suggested donation (U-M students, free). 763–2230.*

"Making Felted Mittens": Clonlara School. Local fiber artist Susan Wright demonstrates how to make cozy mittens out of boiled wool sweaters. Bring your good sewing scissors. *1–3 or 4–6 p.m., Clonlara, 1289 Jewett. $17 materials fee ($5 per extra pair you make). Preregistration requested. 769–4511.*

★**William Stewart Performance Competition: EMU Music Department.** EMU music students compete for scholarships and performance honors. *6*

p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.

★**"A Culture of Color-Indigo in Japan": Ann Arbor FiberArts Guild.** Talks by Pontiac indigo farmer and dyer Rowland Ricketts and his wife, *kasuri* weaver Chinami Ricketts. Refreshments. *6:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 665–0703.*

★**Ann Arbor Checkers and Draughts Society.** *January 11 & 25.* Adults invited to play games of checkers, or "draughts" (the British term). Also, participants can try to solve tricky end-of-game brainteasers. *6:30 p.m., downtown cafe TBA. Free. 827–0328.*

★**"The National Forum on Higher Education for the Public Good": Access to Democracy.** All invited to join a discussion about how to improve access to higher education in Michigan. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum Bookshop, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★**"Inside the World of Television Broadcasting: U-M Knight-Wallace Fellows Journalists from '60 Minutes,' CNN, and Fox Broadcasting Discuss Today's News Broadcasting Challenges": Ann Arbor District Library.** Panel discussion with *60 Minutes* producer Alden Bourne, CNN senior producer Maria Fleet, and XETV (San Diego) managing editor Christine Tanaka. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**Fantasy and Science Fiction/Theory Reading Group: U-M English Department.** All age 21 & older invited to discuss ***Declare,*** Tim Powers's award-winning suspense thriller about a Secret Service agent who becomes entangled in a plot involving Noah's ark. Refreshments. *7–9 p.m., 3184 Angell Hall. Free. 764–2553.*

★**Chamber Recital: Pioneer High School.** Small ensembles of Pioneer students perform chamber music. *7–8 p.m., PHS Little Theater, 601 W. Stadium at Main. Free. 994–2120.*

U-M Women's Basketball vs. Ohio State. *7 p.m., Crisler Arena. $3 (youths under 18, $1; U-M students with ID, free). 764–0247.*

"Winter Soups": Whole Foods Market. Local chef Steve Clawson shows how to prepare an array of easy to make soups. *7–8:30 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking and Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw Ave. $15. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

"Kickin' Off the Year with Monk!": Jazzistry. Veteran local alto saxophonist Vincent York leads his educational jazz history ensemble in works by the pioneering modern jazz pianist Thelonious Monk. With pianist Rick Roe, tenor saxophonist Donald Walden, bassist Josef Deas, and drummer Randy Gillespie. *7 & 9 p.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. $10 (youths under 18 with parent, $5 for the 7 p.m. show only). 665–9090.*

★**"The Mobilization of Ethnicity in Israeli Politics": U-M Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies.** Talks by U-M Judaic studies professor Zvi Gitelman and Haifa University sociology professor Sammy Smooha. *8 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater (3rd floor). Free. 764–0350.*

"Tuesday Tickler": The Heidelberg Club Above. See 4 Tuesday. 10 p.m.–midnight.

FILMS

MTF. "Callas Forever" (Franco Zeffirelli, 2002). See 7 Friday. Mich., times TBA. Other Michigan Theater films TBA.

12 WEDNESDAY

★**"Play Day for Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Wednesday beginning January 12.* Play group for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. No older siblings. *10–11 a.m., AADL Northeast Branch, Plymouth Mall. Free. 327–4200.*

★**Open House: Ann Arbor Women's City Club.** All invited to tour the club's historic home, chat with members, and learn about upcoming classes, trips, and lectures. Lunch available (11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., reservations required). *10 a.m.–1 p.m. & 4–6 p.m., Ann Arbor Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 662–3279*

★**Brown Bag Lecture: U-M Center for Russian and East European Studies.** *Every Wednesday beginning January 12.* Bring a bag lunch. Today: Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld (New York) attorney Robert Langer discusses **"The 'Yukos Affair' and the Development of the Rule of Law in Russia."** Also this month: Case Western Reserve political science professor Kelly McMann on **"Coping Without Communism: States and Societies in Central Asia"** (January 19) and writer, translator, and Albanian studies specialist Robert Elsie on **"The Life and Work of Albanian Author Ismail Kadare"** (January 26). *Noon, 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0351.*

★**"Liberation Movements: LGBT Politics and the Struggle for Civil Rights": 18th Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Symposium (U-M Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives).** Today: a panel of speakers TBA discuss the intersection of civ-

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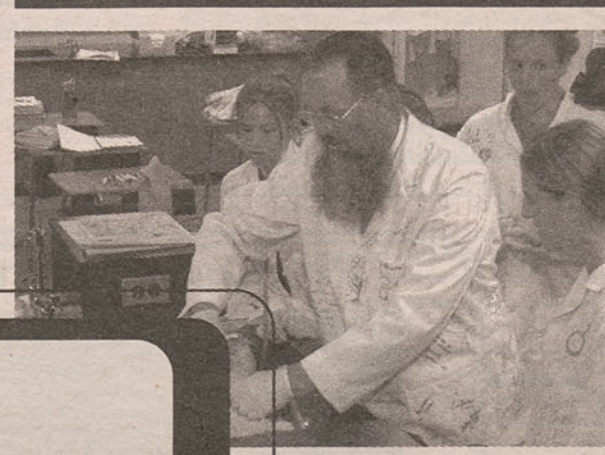

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il rights movement for gay, lesbian, and transgender people with other civil rights movements. *4–6 p.m., Michigan Union room 3909. Free. 936–1384.*

★**"Electrons in Solids: Emergence and the Landau-Luttinger Legacy": U-M College of Literature, Science, & the Arts.** Lecture by U-M physics professor James Allen. Reception follows. *4:10 p.m., 340 West Hall, 550 East University. Free. 998–6251.*

★**"Piranesi: Selected Etchings from the Collection of Bruce W. Frier": U-M Institute for the Humanities.** U-M classics and law professor Bruce Frier discusses this exhibit (see Galleries) of pieces from his collection of this 18th-century artist's copperplate etchings of scenes of Roman architecture, including palaces, piazzas, and churches, as well as surviving Roman monuments. Reception. *4:30 p.m., Osterman Common Room, 0520 Rackham. Free. 936–3518.*

★**Steven Gillis and Stefan Kiesbye: EMU Bath-House Reading Series.** These 2 EMU English department instructors read from their new fiction. Gillis, author of the acclaimed novel *Walter Falls,* reads from ***The Weight of Nothing,*** his new novel about a journey to North Africa taken by friends who have each been evading their own lives. One is a gifted pianist who has abandoned his talent to become a perennial art history grad student, and the other, the heir to a fortune he has rejected, is haunted by the unresolved deaths of both his father and his lover. Kiesbye reads from his award-wining debut novella, ***Next Door Lived a Girl*** *(see review, p. 58),* a tale, set in the demoralized world of a working-class town in post-WW II Germany, about the dark transformation of young boys into young men. "*Next Door Lived a Girl* is both laconic and feverish, with German adolescent boys poking their sometimes violent way into the world," says novelist Charles Baxter. "The novella has a fascinating combination of everyday domestic life and subsurface." *5 p.m., Ladies' Literary Club, 218 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–0135.*

U-M Men's Basketball vs. Northwestern. *7 p.m., Crisler Arena. $15 & $22. 764–0247.*

★**Ann Arbor Magic Club.** All amateur and professional magicians invited to an evening of socializing and discussion of the magical arts. *7 p.m., Domino's Farms, Lobby G, 24 Frank Lloyd Wright Dr. (off Earhart north of Plymouth Rd.). Free. 482–9253.*

★**"Bringing Back the Lake Superior Brook Trout": Trout Unlimited.** Talk by Michigan Tech lead research scientist Casey Huckins. *7 p.m., Community High School, 401 N. Division. Free. 433–2661.*

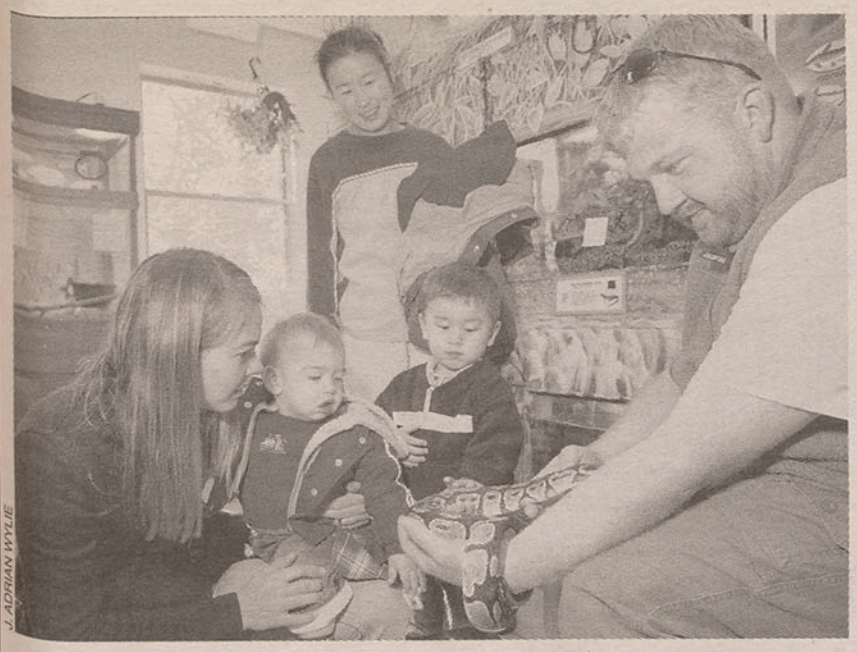
★**"ARRL Appointments": Arrow Communication Association Amateur Radio Club.** Talk by club member Dan Romanchik. Preceded by "ragchewing and socializing." *7 p.m., Washtenaw Community College room TBA, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free to visitors ($25 annual dues). 930–6564.* [5]

★**Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads 2005 Book Discussion Leader Training Sessions: Ann Arbor District Library.** *January 12, 18, 20, & 25 (different locations).* Training sessions for anyone interested in moderating public or private discussions of Amin Maalouf's novel ***Leo Africanus,*** the book that has been chosen this year for the annual communitywide reading program. Written in the form of a memoir, *Leo Africanus* explores Islam and Christendom through the fictional adventures of a historical Arab traveler and geographer. Other Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads programs this month include AADL talks on the historical Leo Africanus on January 13 and on Islamic art on January 28, and a discussion of Maalouf's novel at the Jewish Community Center on January 31 (see listings). *7–9 p.m., Peace Neighborhood Center, 1111 N. Maple (Jan. 12); AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William (Jan. 18); Ypsilanti District Library, 5577 Whittaker Rd. (Jan. 20); and Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Rd. (Jan. 25). Free. Space limited; preregistration required. 327–4560 (Jan. 12, 18, & 25), 879–1303 (Jan. 20).*

★**"Freedom's Laboratory: Michigan's Path from Territory to Statehood": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by U-M–Dearborn history professor Martin Hershock. In conjunction with the Michigan Territory bicentennial. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level). 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**Stuart Dybek: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** This award-winning, highly acclaimed Chicago-bred fiction writer and poet, a WMU English professor, reads from ***Streets in Their Own Ink,*** a collection of poems mapping the interior geographies of characters inhabiting the severe, often savage world of city streets. Novelist Geoffrey Wolff has praised Dybek's writing for the way it translates "extreme and fantastic events into a fabulous dailiness." *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

kids



J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Tiny Tots Time at Leslie
Meet Tortuga

The parking lot at Leslie Science Center has overflowed, and cars are lining the driveway. My boy Gabriel, age three, runs immediately to a scarecrow planted firmly in the Project Grow garden. "Who's that?" he asks. A scarecrow. "Does he need his hat?" Gabriel retrieves a beaten straw hat that's sitting at the scarecrow's feet and carefully places it on the scarecrow's head. "Now he's dressed."

The gardens are impressive by my standards—big colorful signs, and well-tended lots that Mary Contrary would be proud of. Gabriel discovers a long orange-and-white cat who happily allows himself to be carried around. As I get closer I see why: he's been rolling in a patch of catnip.

We're alone, having missed one of the tours given by staff through the woods. But that's okay; we've hiked through the beautiful park woods before, leaning over the sides of the wondrous floating boardwalk to see who lives in Black Pond, happy to breathe in the sweet, pure air.

Soon enough the tour group emerges from the woods and fills the garden with toddling children and their parents. The cat, totally blissed out, lopes and runs, with my boy and many others in tow.

There are three activity areas set up near the nature house: chalk drawings, an art project, and a place to tell stories and sing songs. Gabriel shoves pretty dried flowers into homemade play dough before running into a building to explore.

Here, in the Critter House, we hit the jackpot. Various habitat scenes adorn the walls: woodland forests, aquatic marshes, and tropical rain forests. The children are fascinated by the critters. I am, too, actually: huge cockroaches and other arthropods (animals that have no bones, only exoskeletons—see what I learned?), a large iguana, box and snapping turtles, salamanders, frogs, chameleons, domesticated rabbits, nesting doves with an egg, and many more. But the undeniable star of the show is a six-year-old, thirty-pound African tortoise named Tortuga.

When we come in, Tortuga is trying to climb out of her box. Eric, the program coordinator, explains that she's very social and does this whenever there are people in the building. He lets her out. Gabriel stands back a bit, wary of this ancient being. She puts on quite a show. Tortuga makes a line drive toward the door at a surprisingly fast pace. Eric hauls her back in a few times, but she keeps at it. He shuts the door. She nudges it open.

Finally he tosses lettuce on the floor. This works. Eric gives some to the kids, and Tortuga follows them, gulping down the lettuce. She appears utterly unconcerned about the fifteen humans standing in the room. I imagine her making a successful break, quietly cruising unnoticed down the path. Perhaps on our next hike we will see her smiling face just below the surface of Black Pond.

This month's Tiny Tots Time at Leslie Science Center is on Friday, January 14.

—Charmie Gholson

★**"The Ishaya's Ascension": International Society of Ascension.** International Society of Ascension Center (Ontario) teacher Giri Dev Ishaya introduces this simple meditation technique to help still the mind and reduce stress. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**"Garden Paths: Improving the Garden Journey": Ann Arbor Garden Club.** Talk by Waterford gardening writer and *Detroit Free Press* columnist Janet Macunovich. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 480–7751.*

★**Fiction Readers Group: Barnes & Noble.** All invited to join a discussion of ***The Kite Runner,*** U-M creative writing visiting professor Khaled Hosseini's moving novel, set in Kabul, Afghanistan, on the brink of the Soviet invasion. Refreshments. *7:30 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. Preregistration required. 973–0846.*

★**History Readers Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** EMU history professor emeritus Les Scherer leads a discussion of Michael Schaller's presidential biography ***Reckoning with Reagan.*** *7:30 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 111 E. Ann. Free. 369–2499.*

★**Amanda Moncur: Barnes & Noble.** This children's writer reads from her new book ***Fairies Dance of Light,*** an illustrated rhyming tale for kids ages 8–12. Also, signing. *7:30 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

The Osama Project: University Musical Society. Montreal-based avant-jazz and psychedelic improv musician Osama "Sam" Shalabi performs live improvised *oud* music against a background of prerecorded sounds that include driving electronic music, avant-classical strings, and human voices crying or performing monologues and dialogues. The songs examine Middle Eastern politics, and Shalabi calls the theme of this performance "an imaginary Arab and Jewish dystopia, a *West Side Story* projected into the future." Followed by a public reception at Oz (210 S. Fifth Ave.), with local hip-hop artist Iron Sheikh. *8 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater. Tickets $20–$30 in advance at the Michigan League and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

James Armstrong: The Ark. California blues band led by singer-songwriter and guitarist Armstrong. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $13.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Comedy Jamm Night": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 5 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Unforgivable Blackness" (Ken Burns, 2004). *Tonight only.* Preview of a PBS biopic about Jack Johnson, the first African American boxing champion, whose early-20th-century victories in the ring set off race riots in the street. FREE. 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, 7 p.m. **"Callas Forever"** (Franco Zeffirelli, 2002). See 7 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

13 THURSDAY

★**Euchre: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** All seniors age 50 & older invited to play this popular card game. *9–11 a.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★**"West Play Day for Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Wednesday beginning January 13.* Play group for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. *10–11 a.m., AADL West Branch story room, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 327–4200.*

★**Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Japanese Studies.** *January 13, 20, & 27.* Talks by U-M and visiting scholars and writers. Today: Wayne State University East Asian history professor Elizabeth Dorn discusses **"In the Name of Reform: Christians and Buddhists in the Meiji Period."** Also this month: Yale University East Asian languages professor Christopher Hill on **"Naturalist Literature and Social Imaginaries"** (January 20) and University of California East Asian languages professor James Fujii on **"Japanese Local Currency Movements and Globalization"** (January 27). *Noon, 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–6307.*

★**"Righteous Propagation: African Americans and the Politics of Racial Destiny after Reconstruction": Shaman Drum Bookshop.** U-M history professor **Michele Mitchell** is on hand to sign copies of her new book about African American sociopolitical culture between 1877 and 1930. *4 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★**Mierle Laderman Ukeles: U-M School of Art Penny Stamps Lecture Series.** Talk by this veteran artist-in-residence for the New York City Department of Sanitation. *5 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 764–0397.*

★**"Play Day for Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Thursday beginning January 13.* Play group for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. No older siblings. *6:30–7:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4200.*

★**Reiki: Center for Intuitive Health.** Local reiki master Ray Golden discusses this healing technique and gives minitreatments. *7 p.m., location TBA. Free. 663–9724.*

★**"Bird Toys": Ann Arbor Cage Bird Club.** All invited to join club members in making bird toys. Materials provided. Bring your bird. *7 p.m., Ann Arbor Community Center, 625 N. Main. Free. 662–4582.*

★**"Menopausal Herbs": Whole Foods Market.** Talk by local holistic health practitioner Linda Feldt. *7–8:30 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking and Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

★**"Geography of War, Flight, and Refuge in Lofa (Liberia)": U-M International Institute.** Lecture by U-M visiting history professor Jean-Herve Jezequel. Part of the International Institute's "Democratization, (De)Centralization, and Governance" lecture series. *7–8:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 615–8482.*

★**"The History of the Real Leo Africanus and the World He Lived In": Ann Arbor District Library.** EMU modern Middle Eastern history professor Janice Terry discusses the 16th-century figure behind Amin Maalouf's popular historical novel, the book selected for Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads 2005 (see 12 Wednesday listing). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**History of Books & Printing Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to join a discussion of Alister McGrath's ***In the Beginning: The Story of the King James Bible.*** Refreshments. *7–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 111 E. Ann. Free. 669–0451.*

"Porters": Arbor Brewing Company Beer Tasting. A chance to sample and learn about some 2 dozen porters from around the world. Also, a drawing for beer-related prizes. The price of admission includes unlimited beer sampling and a German appetizer buffet. *7–9 p.m., Arbor Brewing Company, 114 E. Washington. Tickets $25 in advance and (if available) at the door. 213–1393.*

★**"Ethics and the Display of Human Embryo Specimens": U-M Life Sciences, Values, and Society Program/Museum Studies Program.** Mount

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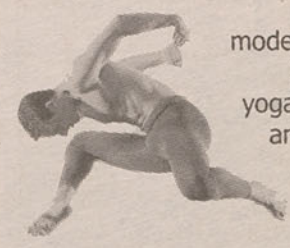
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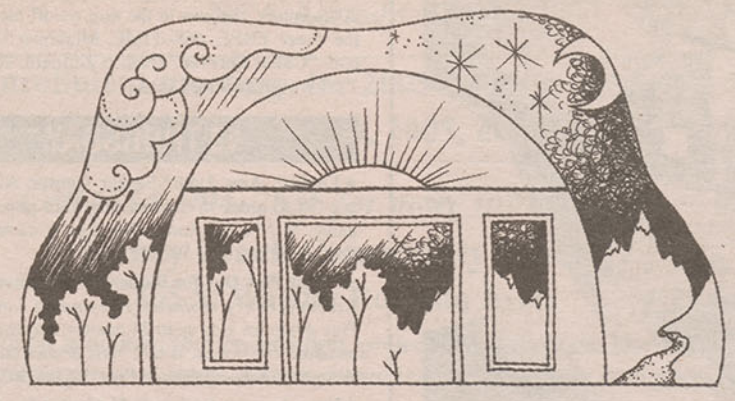

12th grade drawing by Liza Efimova

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13 THURSDAY EVENTS *continued*

Holyoke College anthropology professor Lynn Morgan discusses the recent pressure applied to museums to remove displays of preserved fetuses and embryos, and the changing meanings attached to human embryo and fetal specimens over the past century. *7:30 p.m., Osterman Common Room, 0520 Rackham. Free. 763–1200.*

"The Power of Good": U-M Hillel. Screening of Matej Minac's 2002 documentary about Nicholas Winton, a British stockbroker who single-handedly and secretly saved 669 Czech children, most of them Jewish, from almost certain destruction during WW II. Followed by a panel discussion by speakers TBA. *7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. $5. 668–TIME.*

★"Trek to Everest Base Camp at 17,600 Feet": Of Global Interest. Local adventure tour company owner Heather O'Neal presents a multimedia slide show about traveling in Nepal and trekking to the Mount Everest base camp. *8 p.m., 120 Eighth St. Free. 369–3107.*

Stephanie Blythe: University Musical Society. UMS debut of this fast-rising star, a contralto with a dark, warm, sensuous tone capable of reaching far up into the soprano range. Blythe is known for her superior diction and her ability to project her voice all over a room, enveloping the audience in its vibrating tones. The *New York Times* calls Blythe "a vocal presence, with a colorful, solid, distinctive voice that she uses as an artist, not just a showman." She is accompanied by pianist Warren Jones and cellist David Heiss. Tonight's program includes four of Sergei Slonimsky's songs parodying advertisements, including "It Sweeps" and "Make This a Day." Also, art songs by Faure, Vaughan Williams, and the 20th-century English composer Frank Bridge. *8 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater. Tickets $30–$40 in advance at the Michigan League and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

Dennis Stroughmatt & Creole Stomp: The Ark. This Illinois-based ensemble led by fiddler Stroughmatt performs the entire range of indigenous Louisiana music, from traditional Cajun music to rubboard-driven zydeco to blues-based swamp rock. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $11 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"The Rivals": Huron High School. *January 13–15.* Bj Wallingford directs Huron students in Richard Sheridan's exuberant 1775 romantic comedy of manners. Romantic-minded Lydia Languish longs for an elopement instead of a dull conventional wedding. Sensing this, wealthy local chap Jack Absolute casts himself as a dashingly penniless suitor. When Lydia's fusty aunt Mrs. Malaprop bans this relationship, a bumptious country squire and an Irish baronet—who meanwhile catches Mrs. Malaprop's eye—are all too ready to try their luck. *8 p.m., Huron High School Meyers Auditorium. Tickets $5 (students & seniors, $3). 994–2095.*

"Boston Marriage": Performance Network Professional Season. *Every Thursday through Sunday (except January 16), January 13–February 20.* Gillian Eaton directs David Mamet's bitchy 1999 comedy of manners about 2 sharp-witted, archly theatrical unmarried women living together in Victorian Boston. In order to supplement her income, one of the women, Anna, has become the mistress of a wealthy married man, and the other, Claire, has been smitten by a young girl, whom she persuades Anna to allow her to seduce in their home. The trouble begins when the young girl notices her mother's heirloom necklace around Anna's neck. "Nothing [Mamet] has done comes close to the leap of faith he took in this witty and unpredictable piece, which extends his new interest in historical period (shown for the first time in *The Winslow Boy*) in a wonderfully nutty direction," says HotReview.org critic Abraham Lincoln Straw. "*Boston Marriage* is a play that lives by keeping the audience guessing about what its game is. . . . The fun depends on one's never quite getting one's footing." Cast: Carla Milarch, Roxanne Wellington, and Laurel Hufano. *8 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Preview tickets: whatever you can afford to pay (Jan. 13), $20 (Jan. 14 & 20), and $27.50 (Jan. 15). After Jan. 21: $24.50–$34.50 (seniors, $3.50 discount; age 16 & under, $10). Tickets available in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. Half-price student rush tickets available 1 hour before showtime. For reservations or to charge by phone, call 663–0681.*

Leo DuFour: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *January 13–15.* One of Canada's top stand-up comics, DuFour is an observational humorist whose monologues are known for their off-the-wall whimsicality, antic theatricality, and twisted topical humor. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Friday early show is a nonsmoking show. *8 p.m., old VFW*

Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $5 (Thurs.) & $8 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $7 (Thurs.) & $10 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.

Improv Inferno. See 6 Thursday. 8 & 10 p.m.

FILMS

MTF. "Callas Forever" (Franco Zeffirelli, 2002). See 7 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

14 FRIDAY

"Tiny Tots Time": Leslie Science Center (Ann Arbor Parks Department). *See review, p. 63.* Hands-on outdoor nature activities (accompanied by a caregiver). Snacks provided; dress for the outdoors. *9:30–11 a.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. $6 per child. 997–1553.*

★**"Downtown Play Day for Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Friday beginning January 14.* Play group for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. No older siblings. *10–11 a.m., AADL, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"World Wide Web Tools": Ann Arbor District Library.** *January 14 & 21 (different branch locations).* Hands-on introduction to web basics, including how to surf and search the web. *10 a.m. (Jan. 14), AADL downtown library, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William; & 1 p.m. (Jan. 21), Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free (AADL noncardholders, $10). Preregistration required. 327–8367.*

17th Anniversary Antiques Show: Saline Area Historical Society. *January 14 & 15.* Juried show and sale of antiques from over 50 dealers from throughout the Midwest, including furniture, tableware, textiles, and more. Food available. *11 a.m.–7 p.m. (Jan. 14) & 9 a.m.–5 p.m. (Jan. 15), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd., Saline. Admission $3. 944–0713.*

★**The Yiddish Group: Jewish Community Center.** All invited for readings and discussion of Yiddish literature selections TBA. Also, singing of Yiddish songs. *1:30–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★**"Ice Carving Extravaganza": Main Street Area Association/Ann Arbor Culinary Association.** Members of the **U-M ice carving team** chip huge blocks of ice on the sidewalks into elaborate twinkling sculptures, which remain on display as long as the weather holds. *6–10 p.m. (Jan. 14) & 10 a.m.–6 p.m. (Jan. 15), Main Street area. Free. 668–7112.*

★**Tot Shabbat: Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society.** Candle lighting, songs, stories, and a craft activity, followed by a vegetarian potluck (bring a dish to pass; beverage & table service provided). Geared toward families with toddlers up to age 5, but all welcome. *6 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 975–9872.*

★**U-M Wrestling vs. Penn State.** *7:30 p.m., Cliff Keen Arena, Hoover at S. State. Free. 764–0247.*

★**"To-Do List": Older Lesbians Organizing.** All lesbians invited to join a discussion of New Year's resolutions. Also, a January 22 potluck (location TBA). *7:30 p.m., WRAP office, 325 Braun. Free. 482–2996.*

U-M Ice Hockey vs. Alaska-Fairbanks. *January 14 & 15. 7:30 p.m., Yost Ice Arena, 1016 S. State at McKinley. $12–$17. 764–0247.*

★**"Buddha's Enlightenment Commemoration": Buddhist Society for Compassionate Wisdom.** All invited to sit in meditation. Sittings begin at 8 and 10 p.m., and meditators are encouraged to stay until 10 p.m., midnight, or 4 a.m. Suggested offerings: flowers, fruit, candles, nuts, incense, dried food, money. *8 p.m.–4 a.m., Zen Buddhist Temple, 1214 Packard at Wells. Free. 761–6520.*

2nd Friday Advanced English Frolic: Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. English country dancing for experienced dancers. Fast-paced, with limited walk-throughs. Joanna Reiner calls to music by Childgrove. *8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $10. (313) 665–7704.*

Dana Cooper: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Ann Arbor debut of this veteran Missouri-bred folk-rock singer-songwriter from Nashville whose songs are known for their melodic inventiveness and poetically evocative lyrical sophistication. His songs have been recorded by everyone from Maura O'Connell to Trout Fishing in America. He recently released his 5th CD, *Harry Truman Built a Road. 8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $12 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 662–4536, 665–8558.*

Fonn Mor: The Ark. This acclaimed Celtic rock quintet from Battle Creek blends traditional Irish and Scottish melodies and musical structures with African-influenced rock drumming and percussion. "Fonn Mor isn't just another Celtic band or rock group with Celtic influences," says Irish American Heritage Center (Chicago) manager Conor O'Keeffe. "They are one of the most powerful and musically exciting groups, Celtic or otherwise, I've ever seen perform in concert." The band is joined tonight by dancers from the O'Hare Irish School of Dance. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $12.50 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Wine, Women, and Song": Kerrytown Concert House. *January 14 & 15.* An elegant evening of jazz, classical, and cabaret songs showcasing noted local singers. Performers include Choral Connection artistic director **Carolyn Burnstein,** local singers **Susan Shipman** and **Shelley Macmillan,** sopranos **Elizabeth Major, Jane Rodgers,** and **Julia Broxholm,** and mezzo-sopranos **Deanna Relyea, Jennifer Hilbish-Schuetz, Monica Swartout-Bebow, Karen Roberts,** and **Wendy Bloom,** who also directs. Wine is served. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15, $20, & $50 per night. Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"Rebirth of a Nation": University Musical Society. New York–based conceptual artist **DJ Spooky** presents his fractured remix of D. W. Griffith's notorious 1915 film *Birth of a Nation.* Acclaimed for its stunning cinematography and epic sweep, Griffith's film details the events of the Civil War, Reconstruction, and the rise of the Ku Klux Klan. Spooky spins his original hip-hop sound track to accompany projections on 3 large screens of a fast-paced, nonnarrative, sometimes repetitive barrage of visual images that include a set of international flags, scenes from the film, and snippets from dances by New York modern dance choreographer Bill T. Jones. The performance is preceded at 6:15 p.m. by a public reception in the Michigan League Hussey Room. *Related events:* January 9 screenings of *Birth of a Nation* and Oscar Micheaux's harrowing 1920 film *Within Our Gates* (see listings). *8 p.m., Power Center. Tickets $16–$36 in advance at the Power Center and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

"The Rivals": Huron High School. See 13 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Boston Marriage": Performance Network Professional Season. See 13 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Improv Inferno. See 1 Saturday. 8 & 10 p.m.

Leo DuFour: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 13 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Phil DeGreg: The Firefly Club. Straight-ahead jazz by this trio led by University of Cincinnati Conservatory of Music piano professor DeGreg, who performs warm, bracing, hard-swinging brands of hard bop and postbop. His repertoire ranges from standards to obscure gems and originals. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. $12 in advance and at the door. 665–9090.*

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "House of Flying Daggers" (Zhang Yimou, 2004). *January 14–20.* Stylish, visually sumptuous, high-energy martial arts thriller about a 9th-century Robin Hood–style rebel group trying to bring down the Tang dynasty. Made by China's best film director. The *New York Times* calls it "a gorgeous entertainment, a feast of blood, passion, and silk brocade." Mandarin, subtitles. $8.50 (children, students, veterans, & seniors, $6.25; members, $5.50). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA. **"A Very Long Engagement"** (Jean-Pierre Jeunet, 2004). *January 14–20.* When a WW I soldier goes missing, his fiancee holds out hope that he's still alive. French, subtitles. Audrey Tautou, Gaspard Ulliel, Dominique Pinon. $8.50 (children, students, veterans, & seniors, $6.25; members, $5.50). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

15 SATURDAY

Greater Ann Arbor Quilt Guild. Talk by Missouri quilter Bettina Havia, who also leads a workshop on Amish scrap quilts (January 14, $50). Followed by member "show and tell," sale of quilting supplies, fabrics, and books, and a workshop on folk art applique. Also, display of quilts donated to SAFE House. Raffle. Quilters of all abilities invited. Lunch available. *9 a.m.–2 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $10 (members, free). Wheelchair-accessible. 429–0119.*

★**"Mastodons and the Ice Age": U-M Exhibit Museum/Ann Arbor District Library.** *January 15, 22, & 23 (at various library branches) & 30 (at the U-M Exhibit Museum).* Family-oriented program exploring how enormous glaciers transformed the Michigan landscape 20,000 years ago. Also, display of massive teeth from mastodons and mammoths, 2 mammals that thrived during the Ice Age. *11 a.m.–noon, AADL*

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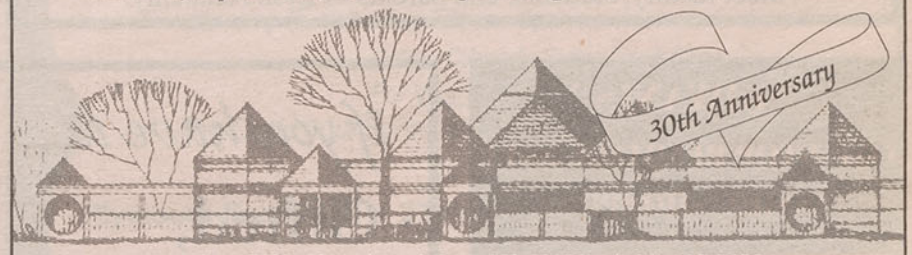

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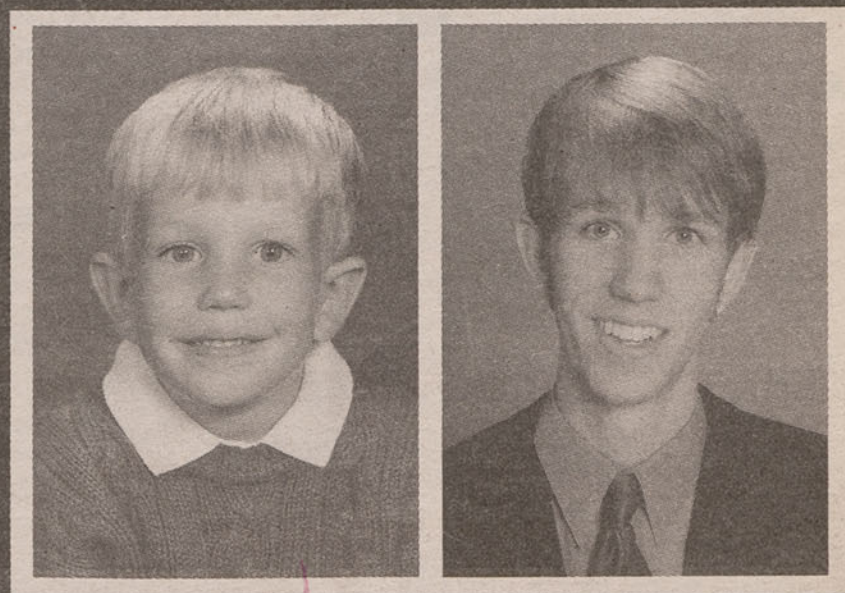

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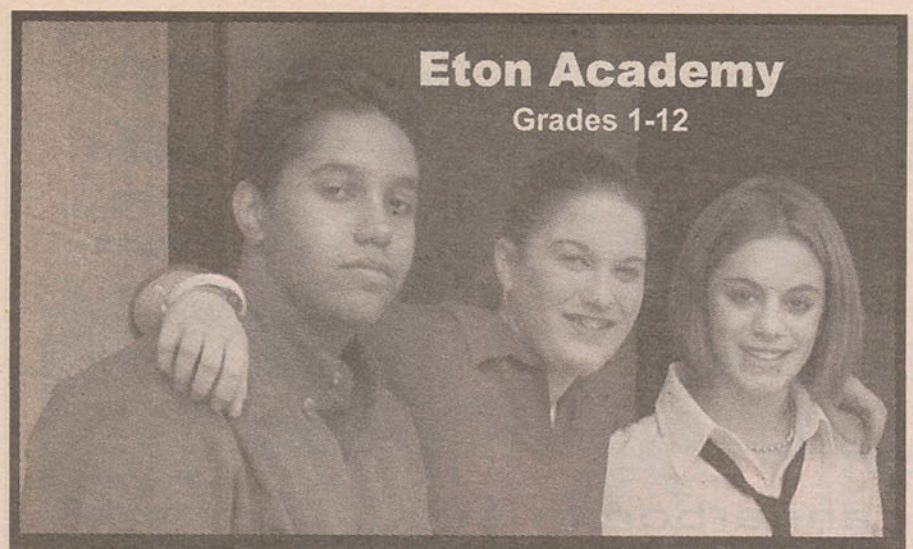

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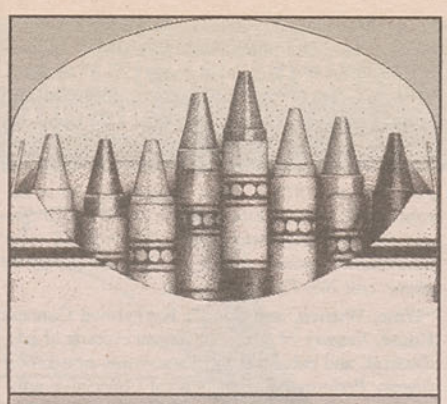

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15 SATURDAY EVENTS *continued*

West Branch, Westgate Shopping Center, & 2–3 p.m., Northeast Branch, Plymouth Mall. Free. Preregistration required. 327–4200.

★**"Chapter of Life Book Club": Ann Arbor Senior Center.** All seniors age 50 & older invited to discuss a book TBA. Light snack. *11 a.m.–1 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center. Free. 769–5911.*

"The Sky Tonight"/"Stories My Ancestors Told: Sky Legends of the Three Fires": U-M Exhibit Museum Planetarium. *Every Saturday & Sunday beginning January 15. The Sky Tonight* (11:30 a.m. Saturdays only and 1:30 & 3:30 p.m. both days) is an audiovisual exploration of the current night sky. *Stories My Ancestors Told: Sky Legends of the Three Fires* (12:30 p.m. Saturdays only and 2:30 p.m. both days) is an audiovisual show in which contemporary Michigan Native American storytellers present traditional stories about the nighttime sky of the Ojibwa, Odawa, and Potawatomi tribes, the "three fires" collectively known as the Anishinabeg, or First People. It is followed by a brief star talk. *11:30 a.m. and 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, & 3:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. $3.75. 764–0478.*

"Mad Scientist Day": Leslie Science Center (Ann Arbor Parks Department). Leslie Science Center staff present a family-oriented program of science activities. Participants make a substance that is neither liquid nor solid, design and build a container sturdy enough to protect an egg when dropped from a 2nd-story window, and explore airplanes, rockets, and the properties of water. *1–3 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. $6 (family, $25). 997–1553.*

"On the Trail of the Whitetail": Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. Hudson Mills naturalist Jennifer Hollenbeck leads a leisurely hike to look for signs of white-tailed deer and learn about their habits. *2 p.m., Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. $2. (Park entry fee: $4 per vehicle.) Preregistration required. 426–8211.*

★**Matinee Dance: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** All senior singles and couples age 50 & older invited to dance to recorded music from the 30s, 40s, & 50s. Casual attire. Refreshments. Preceded at 1:30 p.m. by lessons. *2–3:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center. Free. 769–5911.*

★**Toot & Puddle: Barnes & Noble.** All kids ages 5–10 invited to hear some of Holly Hobbie's stories about the adventures of the lovable pigs Toot and Puddle. Also, games with prizes. *2 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. Preregistration required. 973–0846.*

"Stories without Words": Performance Network Children's Theater Network. Veteran local mime **Michael Lee** performs a program of silent skits for kids of all ages. *2 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Tickets $10 (youth 16 & under, $7) in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. For reservations or to charge by phone, call 663–0681.*

★**Camilo Pardo: Ann Arbor District Library.** The chief designer of Ford's Living Legends Studio discusses auto design and art, the evolution of the GT design, the appeal of 60s race cars, and design in other media. *3–4:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School Rd. & Packard). Free. 327–4200.*

★**Mary Bonhag and Evan Premo.** Soprano Bonhag and double bassist Premo, both U-M music students, perform classical and folk solos and duos, including Premo's new song cycle about the 4 seasons that features settings of poems by Basho, Elinor Wylie, Rose Flyman, and e. e. cummings. "This piece is particularly fun because it captures the essence of each season and represents all the different styles that have gone into making Evan the bassist that he is," Bonhag notes. *4 p.m., First Congregational Church, 608 E. William at S. State. Free. 764–0583.*

"Uke-tacular Uke-athon": Ann Arbor Music Center. Local musicians play ukuleles. *7 p.m., Starbucks, State at Liberty. Admission TBA. 665–0375.*

"Owl Hoot": Waterloo Natural History Association. River Raisin Raptor Center director Dody Wyman displays live owls and discusses their habits. Participants also receive an owl pellet, complete with instructions for discovering indigestible parts of prey that are inside. The indoor program is followed by a walk, led by WNHA naturalist Tom Hodgson, along Discovery Center trails to look for and call owls. Dress for the weather. *7 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center lower parking lot, Bush Rd., Chelsea. (Take I-94 west to exit 157, follow Pierce Rd. north to Bush Rd., and go west on Bush Rd. The Discovery Center is on the left.) $2 (family, $5; WNHA members, free). Preregistration required. $6 vehicle entry fee, unless you al-*

ready have a state motor vehicle permit ($24 per year). 475–3170.

Youth Owned Records CD Release Party: The Neutral Zone. CD release party for ***From the Ground Up***, a compilation of recordings by local youth bands and musicians, including the Ninjas, the Plot Thickens, Comatose Collin, Stranger, Twenty Exty Six, the Skafia, After School Special, Mr. E. Ink, Stay at Home Runaways, and others. *7–11 p.m., The Neutral Zone, 637 S. Main. $5. 214–9995.*

Suren Bagratuni & Friends: Chelsea Musical Celebrations. This internationally renowned Armenian-born cellist, currently a University of Illinois music professor, is joined by 3 U-M music professors in performances of Debussy's Sonata for Cello in D Minor, Beethoven's String Trio in G Major, and Brahms's Piano Quartet in G Minor. With violist Yizhak Schotten, violinist Yehonatan Berick, and pianist Katherine Collier. *7 p.m., First Congregational Church, 121 E. Middle, Chelsea. Tickets $12.50 (seniors, $9; youth, $7.50) in advance and at the door. 475–7050.*

U-M Men's Gymnastics vs. Iowa. *7:30 p.m., Cliff Keen Arena, S. State at Hoover. $3 (youths age 12 & under, $1; U-M students, free). 763–2159.*

"FutureStars 2004 Finale": Pioneer High School. See 7 Friday. Student winners of the earlier competitions square off in a finale. The audience picks the winner. 7:30 p.m.

3rd Saturday Contra Dance: Cobblestone Farm Dancers. Peter Baker and Robin Warner call contras to live music by Uncle Lou. All dances taught; first-timers welcome. No partner needed. Wear cool, casual clothes and bring flat, smooth-soled shoes for dancing. *8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $8. 426–0241.*

Black Sky: Dreamland Theater. Psychedelic horror rock by the trio of keyboardist Misha Grey, guitarist Tom Barton, and drummer Thom Elliott. *8 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross, Depot Town, Ypsilanti. Donation. 657–2337.*

★**U-M Life Sciences Orchestra.** John Goodell leads this ensemble of musicians from the U-M medical and science communities in a concert that kicks off its 5th season. Program: Mozart's impassioned, highly wrought Symphony no. 29, and Mahler's emotional, catchy Symphony no. 1 *(Titan)*, which features one of the most dramatic finales of any symphony. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free; donations accepted. 936–ARTS.*

"Wine, Women, and Song": Kerrytown Concert House. See 14 Friday. 8 p.m.

Charlie King: The Ark. East Coast singer-songwriter Charlie King, who composes in the populist tradition of Woody Guthrie and Phil Ochs, is widely regarded as one of the finest contemporary topical songwriters. As a performer, he has been called the natural successor to Pete Seeger, who is among King's fans, calling him "one of the most brilliant and agile singers and songwriters I know of." King's songs about the problems, triumphs, absurdities, and deeper aspirations of common people's lives are distinguished by a rich humor and pathos, and he is gifted with a storytelling genius that shows up both in his lyrics and in his between-songs monologues. His songs range from "Two Good Arms," a powerful retelling of the Sacco and Vanzetti story that has been recorded by Holly Near and Ronnie Gilbert, to the middle-class lament "The Rats Are Winning." A big favorite with local audiences, he performs tonight in a duo with **Karen Brandow,** a vocalist who sings in both English and Spanish. The duo recently released a live CD, *Sparks & Tears*. A fund-raiser for the Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $15 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"The Rivals": Huron High School. See 13 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Boston Marriage": Performance Network Professional Season. See 13 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Improv Inferno. See 1 Saturday. 8 & 10 p.m.

Leo DuFour: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 13 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Ann Arbor Ballroom Dance Club. All invited to join club members for ballroom dancing to recorded music. No partner needed. *9–11 p.m., Stardust Ballroom, Country Creek Shopping Center, 7025 E. Michigan Ave., Saline. $10. 662–5058.*

Saturday Looks Good to Me: The Blind Pig. Eclectic local pop-rock band led by Fred Thomas, a versatile local singer-songwriter known for his moody indie pop. Opening act TBA. *10 p.m.–2 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. First. Tickets $8 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

FILMS

MTF. "House of Flying Daggers" (Zhang Yimou, 2004). See 14 Friday. Mich., times TBA. **"A Very Long Engagement"** (Jean-Pierre Jeunet, 2004). See 14 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

16 SUNDAY

★**Sunday Schmooze: Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society.** *January 16 & 30.* All invited for socializing and discussion. Coffee, snack. Today's topic: JCS member Robert Sims leads a discussion of **"An Agenda for Secular Judaism."** Also this month: local social workers Carol Lapidus and Stacey Weinberg lead a discussion of **"Raising Kids with a Positive Jewish Identity"** (January 30). *10 a.m.–noon, Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free on Jan. 16; $10 (members, $5) on Jan. 30. 975–9872.*

"Better to Eat You With": Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. Hudson Mills naturalist Jennifer Hollenbeck presents a hands-on program on what we can learn about animals' diets from their skulls and teeth. *2 p.m., Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. $2. (Park entry fee: $4 per vehicle.) Preregistration required. 426–8211.*

★**Guided Tours: U-M Museum of Art.** *January 16 & 27.* Docent-guided tour of ***Art of the Lega: Meaning and Metaphor in Central Africa*** (January 16) and ***Agnes Martin: The Islands*** (January 27). *2 p.m. (Jan. 16) & 7 p.m. (Jan. 27), UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 763–UMMA.*

Family Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange. All invited to an afternoon of dancing square dances and contras. Also, live music and party games. Callers are John Freeman and David Park, with music by the trio of pianist David West, fiddler Donna Baird, and bassist Mark Williams. *2–4 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $6 (family, $12). 662–3371.*

★**Honors Band and Orchestra: EMU Music Department.** These ensembles of top high school musicians from around the state perform works by Parker, Vaughan Williams, Boerma, Grainger, and Williams. *2 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

★**"Mozart's 'Abduction from the Seraglio': An Introduction to Mozart's Early Masterpiece": Ann Arbor District Library.** AADL music specialist Richard LeSueur discusses the upcoming Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra concert version of Mozart's opera (see 22 Saturday listing). *3–4:15 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**Ann Arbor Concert Band.** U-M music lecturer James Nissen leads this local volunteer ensemble in a program highlighted by Copland's "Lincoln's Portrait," his "Quiet City," Percy Grainger's "Irish Tune from County Derry" and "Shepherd's 'Hey,'" Berlioz's "March to the Scaffold" from his *Symphonie Fantastique*, and pieces from John Williams's soundtrack to the movie *1941*. *3 p.m., Huron High School Meyers Auditorium. Free; donations accepted. 747–9126.*

"Bread Making": Zingerman's Bakehouse. Zingerman's Bakehouse owner Frank Carollo talks about bread making and the different varieties Zingerman's makes (with taste samples). Also, participants knead, shape, bake, and take home a loaf of Zingerman's rustic Italian bread. *4–6 p.m., Zingerman's Bakehouse, 3711 Plaza Dr. $20. Space limited; reservations required. 761–2095.*

★**"Culinary Biographies": Culinary Historians.** Houston food historian Alice Arndt discusses her book ***Culinary Biographies,*** a collection of portraits of "the world's great historic chefs, cookbook authors and collectors, farmers, gourmets, home economists, nutritionists, restaurateurs, philosophers, physicians, scientists, writers, and others who influenced the way we eat today." *4–6 p.m., Burns Park Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 662–8661.*

"Songs We Like": Kerrytown Concert House. U-M musical theater grads **Mike Masallam, Chelsea Krombach, Adam Fry,** and others TBA perform new songs and old classics in a variety of genres. Accompanist is pianist Eric Lofstrom. *4 & 7 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets $10 (students, $8) in advance and at the door. 769–2999.*

"Jubilant Carols": Ann Arbor Grail Singers. Lynn Malley leads this polished local early-music chorus in a program of chant and early choral music. The program is highlighted by 2 musical pairings: a 14th-century and Ronald Center's modern setting of the graceful, charming "There Is No Rose," and a chant and Josquin des Prez's late-15th- and early-16th-century versions of the mysterious, stirring "Ave Verum Corpus." Also, Holst's "Ave Maria" and works by Orlando Lasso, Antonio Lotti, and Palestrina. *4 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Tickets $15 (seniors & Academy of Early Music*

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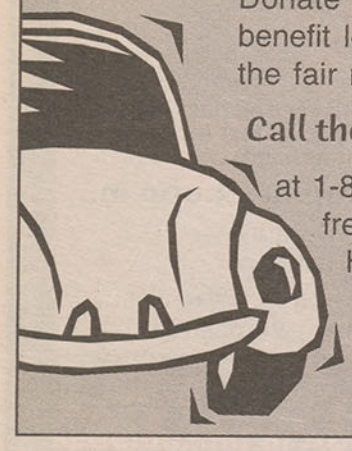

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members, $12; students, $5) at the door only. 995–5320.

Evidence: University Musical Society. *January 16 & 17 (different programs). See review, p. 71.* This 9-member modern dance troupe, led by New York choreographer **Ronald K. Brown,** who founded it in 1985, performs powerful, bittersweet parables of the African and African American experience, infused with a sense of spiritual quest, unlike some modern dance that emphasizes abstraction. Brown's work incorporates African dance and energetic bursts of sinuous, quick movements. Tonight's program includes the hypnotic *Walking Out the Dark,* a rhythmic circle dance that explores the intersection of truth and darkness, and *Upside Down,* an exploration of loss and growth within African culture, set to a score of percussive trance music. A PittsburghLive.com reviewer said of a November production of this touring show, "Brown's dancers are human centrifuges, spinning influences ranging from African dance, modern, hip-hop, and Jose Limon into a frenetic whiplashing whirlwind." Preceded at 4:15 p.m. by a public reception in the Michigan League Hussey Room. *Related events:* **"All over the Place: Black Choreographers in the 21st Century,"** a talk by Bowling Green dance historian Halifu Osumare, and an **interview of choreographer Brown** by U-M dance professor Robin Wilson (January 17, 1–4:30 p.m., U-M Dance Department Betty Pease Studio, 1310 North University Court). *6 p.m., Power Center. Tickets $18–$40 in advance at the Power Center and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

Eddie from Ohio: The Ark. *January 16 & 17.* This highly regarded acoustic quartet from Arlington, Virginia, is known for its resonant vocal harmonies, ace musicianship, and upbeat, well-crafted original songs. "Imagine Crosby, Stills, and Nash in their heyday, backed by Bela Fleck and the Flecktones," says *Dirty Linen* magazine, and Austin, Texas, radio DJ David Obermann says it evokes "shades of Washington Squares, Uncle Bonsai, and 10,000 Maniacs—but still unique." Opening act is singer-songwriter **Christopher Williams.** *7:30 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $20 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★**Natasa Mitrovic: U-M School of Music.** Piano recital by this Music Academy of Belgrade music professor. Program: Debussy's *L'Isle Joyeuse,* Mendelssohn's *Serious Variations,* Babic's *Variations in the Old Style,* J. S. Bach's Partita no. 1, Mozart's variations on "Salve Tu Domine," and 3 Rachmaninoff etudes. *8 p.m., Blanche Anderson Moore Organ Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 763–4726.*

"Get Up Stand Up": Improv Inferno. See 2 Sunday. 8:30 p.m.

FILMS

Dixboro United Methodist Church 6th Annual Film Festival. "What Is Truth? The Power of Myth." *January 16, 23, & 30 and February 6 & 13.* Series of family-oriented films exploring the nature of truth. Today: ***Smoke Signals*** (Chris Eyre, 1998), a Sundance audience award-winning road movie about 2 Native Americans on a journey to retrieve a relative's cremains. Adapted from a Sherman Aleskie story. Pop and popcorn available. FREE. 665–5632. DUMC, 5221 Church Rd. (off N. Dixboro Rd. just north of Plymouth Rd.), 6:30 p.m. **MTF. "House of Flying Daggers"** (Zhang Yimou, 2004). See 14 Friday. Mich., times TBA. **"A Very Long Engagement"** (Jean-Pierre Jeunet, 2004). See 14 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

17 MONDAY

★**"Science Is for Everyone: Martin Luther King Day Celebration": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum.** All invited to make a messy Alka-Seltzer rocket, try a turkey caller, or muck about in the slime table, "an all-time favorite," notes an organizer. Cup stacking for toddlers. Also, Detroit-area jazz, blues, and salsa trio **Oopapada** leads an interactive program in which they play short passages and then quiz kids about their responses to certain beats or passages of the music. Performers: guitarist Bob Tye, drummer and vocalist Leonard King, and organist Chris Codish. *10 a.m.–5 p.m., Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, 219 E. Huron. Free. 995–5439.*

★**"Walk a Mile in My Shoes": Jewish Community Center Youth Diversity Day.** All kids in grades K–5 invited for a program celebrating diversity that includes interactive games and performances by the Gratitude Steel Band and other artists. Ethnic foods. *12:45–3:30 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. Reservations required. 971–0990.*

★**"No School Days": Ann Arbor Parks Department Youth Outreach Program.** Showing of a documentary about the life of Martin Luther King, Jr., followed by discussion. Refreshments. All ages invited. *1–5 p.m., Northside Community Center, 809 Taylor. Free. 997–1615.*

★**Embroiderers' Guild of America.** Stitchers of all abilities invited to work on their projects, socialize, and learn about guild activities. *6:45 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. Free to visitors ($30 annual dues). 426–3903.*

★**Stephanie Rowden: Ann Arbor Women Artists.** This local artist discusses her sound installations and demonstrates some of the technology behind them. *7:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. Free. 662–3766.*

★**"Sex in Plants: Pollination": Michigan Botanical Club.** Talk by U-M biology professor Beverly Rathcke. *7:45 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 663–5667.*

★**University Symphony Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** Kenneth Kiesler conducts this music-student ensemble in a Martin Luther King memorial concert. Program: Pulitzer Prize–winning composer Joseph Schwantner's *New Morning for the World,* Paul Brantley's *On the Pulse of Morning,* and African American composer William Still's symphony *Africa. Evening time TBA, Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0583.*

Evidence: University Musical Society. See 16 Sunday. Tonight's program: *Come Ye* is a bluesy tribute to the "high priestess of soul," the late soul-jazz chanteuse Nina Simone. It is set to projections of Frederick Douglass and Malcolm X and a musical score that ranges from Simone to Nigerian singer Fela Kuti. Also, *Grace* and *Upside Down,* a stately yet energetic exploration of loss and growth within African culture. 8 p.m.

Eddie from Ohio: The Ark. See 16 Sunday. 8 p.m.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation "American Musicals." See 10 Monday. Today: ***Top Hat*** (Mark Sandrich, 1935) is a song-and-dance musical comedy with the incomparable Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. $8.50 (children, students, veterans, & seniors, $6.25; members, $5.50). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, 7 p.m. **"House of Flying Daggers"** (Zhang Yimou, 2004). See 14 Friday. Mich., times TBA. **"A Very Long Engagement"** (Jean-Pierre Jeunet, 2004). See 14 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

18 TUESDAY

★**"E-Mail Basics": Ann Arbor District Library.** *January 18 & 24 (different branch locations).* Hands-on introduction to basic e-mail features, including opening, reading, and sending e-mail, and opening attachments. *9 a.m., AADL Malletts Creek (Jan. 18) & Northeast (Jan. 24) branches. Free (AADL noncardholders, $10). Preregistration required. 327–8367.*

★**Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Chinese Studies.** *Every Tuesday beginning January 18.* Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Bring a bag lunch; cookies & coffee served. Today: College de France modern Chinese history professor Pierre-Etienne Will discusses **"Modernizing Irrigation in Early Republican China: Politics and Technology."** Also this month: MIT Asian civilizations professor Peter Perdue, author of the forthcoming *China Marches West: The Qing Conquest of Central Eurasia,* discusses **"Civilizing by Force: Implications of Qing Expansion"** (January 25). *Noon–1 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–6308.*

"Workouts for Women": American Business Women's Association MAIA Chapter. Talk by U-M physical therapist Britt Michel. The program begins with networking and dinner. *6 p.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. $14. Preregistration required. 429–8585.*

★**Davy Rothbart: The Neutral Zone.** This local creator of *Found* magazine reads from his acclaimed debut short story collection, *The Lone Surfer of Montana.* A Powells.com reviewer calls the stories "assured and wild and as full of life as someone fully at home in his craft." Refreshments. *6:30–8:30 p.m., The Neutral Zone, 637 S. Main. Free. 214–9995.*

Ann Arbor Indoor Atlatl League: Michigan Atlatl Association. All invited to try their atlatl skills in 30-throw and 10-throw contests. *Atlatl* is a Nahuatl (Aztec) word for a Neolithic device used for throwing a spear or dart, a weapon that predates the bow and arrow by millennia. In Michigan, these weapons (under an unknown name) were used to kill mastodons and other large mammals. A limited number of loaner atlatls are available; bring your own if you have one. *7–8:30 p.m., Wilderness Archery, 297 N. Maple. $7. 913–6283, (810) 231–2314.*

"The Dog Slam": Ann Arbor Poetry Slam. This midmonth affair for those for whom the long-standing 1st Tuesday (see 4 Tuesday listing) is not

enough features open-mike sessions and a variety of oddball ways of presenting poetry, including Midwest Poetry League contests, theme poetry, naked people poetry, and more. "We will leave no poem unread." *7–10 p.m., Club Heidelberg (above the Heidelberg restaurant), 215 N. Main. $5. For information, call Larry Francis at 426–3451.*

★**"Mini-Aquariums": Aquarium Society of Ann Arbor.** Toledo Zoo invertebrates and fishes curator **Jay Hemdal** discusses the trend of keeping complex systems such as coral reefs in tiny aquariums. All invited to join this new group whose activities include fish-swapping and field trips to pet stores. *7 p.m., 2009 U-M Exhibit Museum of Natural History, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 274–1722.*

★**"Start Your Year Off Right! Exercise Your Way to Better Health!": Whole Foods Market.** Local chiropractor Sheila Cummings demonstrates exercise and ergonomic techniques for use while sitting at a desk at work. *7–8 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking and Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations requested. 975–4500*

SpiritSisters Women's Circle. All women invited to discuss spirituality, relationships, empowerment, metaphysics, and healing. Short meditation session. Also, bring divination tools, if you like. *7 p.m., Temple Beth Emeth/St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 2309 Packard. $3. 741–0478.*

★**"Dawn Farm Education Series": Dawn Farm.** *January 18 & 25.* Dawn Farm detoxification facility team leader Ed Conlin discusses **"Grief and Loss."** Also this month: local social worker Jessica Tadsen discusses **"Cultures of Addiction and Recovery"** (January 25). Refreshments, literature. *7:30–9 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off Huron River Dr.). Free. 973–7892.*

★**"Women: A Powerhouse of Diversity": American Association of University Women.** Local community leaders Mary Ann Carolin, Mary Gibson, Frances Deckard, Amy Seetoo, and Ulla Roth each lead a group discussion on a different women's issue. *7:30 p.m., Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 973–6287.*

★**Science Fiction Readers Group: Barnes & Noble.** All invited to join a discussion of a sci-fi novel TBA. *7:30 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. Preregistration required. 973–0846.*

Bright Eyes. Rock 'n' roll in various guises by this band led by Conor Oberst, an acclaimed young Omaha singer-songwriter known for his Dylanesque self-confidence and stylistic versatility. "*Lifted* is a seventy-three-minute opus loaded with musical energy and poetic pretensions, all hooked around Oberst's callow, disheveled voice," says Rob Sheffield in his *Rolling Stone* review of Bright Eyes' 2002 CD. "If you wish he'd go back to low-fi purity, tough luck—nobody could hang purity on music this smart, this vibrant, this emotionally and musically effusive." *7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $23 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

★**"Primer on Palestinian Refugees": U-M Hillel.** All invited to discuss the Palestinian refugee situation and possible solutions. *8 p.m., Hillel, 1429 Hill. Free. 769–0500.*

Vinx: The Ark. Vinx is the stage name of Vincent De Jon Parrette, an African American singer-songwriter and percussionist from Kansas City whose style blends jazz, reggae, 1940s ballads, and African elements into an idiom he calls "primal, Neolithic, prehistoric pop." His 1991 debut CD, *Rooms in My Fatha's House*, was produced by Sting and featured guest appearances by Sting, Herbie Hancock, and Taj Mahal. A big hit in earlier local appearances. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $15 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Tuesday Tickler": The Heidelberg Club Above. See 4 Tuesday. 10 p.m.–midnight.

FILMS

MTF. "House of Flying Daggers" (Zhang Yimou, 2004). See 14 Friday. Mich., times TBA. **"A Very Long Engagement"** (Jean-Pierre Jeunet, 2004). See 14 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

19 WEDNESDAY

"The Morning Edition": Ann Arbor Area Chamber of Commerce. This popular monthly program features a buffet breakfast and a series of 5-minute updates from local business and community leaders. Hosted by Michigan Theater executive director Russ Collins. Speakers: All Media Guides vice-presidents Randy Kuckuk and Greg Smith on what's new at **allmediaguides.com,** new **Washtenaw United Way president Sandra Rupp** introduces herself, **My Gal Friday** owner Sharon McRill discusses her business, longtime Ann Arborite Loretta Poisson discusses

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(Part of a rap, jointly written by a student and teacher, performed at our annual Thanksgiving luncheon)

We'll sit here with full plates
And appreciate this place
As we look around at the faces
Of the next generation
And those of us called to teach
And we practice what we preach
And pour ourselves into
Each kid we reach
We give thanks for moms and dads
And sisters and brothers
Aunt, uncles, grandparents
And all the others
And this brief moment of thanks
Can't begin to cover it
I could go on and on...
But I want you to know
About the seeds that we sow
That we throw into the soil
And it's all coming up roses
And we give thanks together
Whether we believe in Jesus, science,
Buddha, Muhammad or Moses

–Michael, 11th grade; Chad, faculty

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19 WEDNESDAY EVENTS *continued*

"Between a Pyramid and a Hard Place: A Recent Convert to the Muslim Faith," and Washtenaw County Trial Court chief judge Archie Brown discusses the proposed **public safety millage** on the February 22 ballot. Video replays posted at annarborchamber.org. *7–8:45 a.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. $25 (members, $15). Preregistration requested. 214–0104.*

"Women and Ambition": National Association of Career Women. Talk by local change catalyst and personal coach Manya Arond-Thomas. *11:45 a.m.–1:15 p.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. $20 (members, $16) includes lunch. 769–2500.*

"Mozart's First Operatic Masterpiece": Ann Arbor Women's City Club Lunch and Learn Lecture Series. Ann Arbor library music specialist Richard LeSueur discusses Mozart's *The Abduction from the Seraglio*. Lunch included. Preceded by a social period (11:30 a.m.). *Noon, Ann Arbor Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. $15. Preregistration requested. 662–3279.*

★**"Race, Poverty, and Educational Disparities": 18th Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Symposium (U-M Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives).** Today: talks by Harvard economist and researcher Ronald Ferguson and U-M education professor Carla O'Connor. *3:30–5 p.m., Michigan League Koessler Room. Free. 615–3802.*

★**Pittsfield Union Grange Meeting.** Talk (7:15 p.m.) by Great Lakes Ethanol representative Ken Lake. Preceded by a potluck supper (bring a dish; table service provided). *6:30 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). Free. 769–1052.*

★**"The History of Jeeps": Southeastern Michigan Chapter of the American Truck Historical Society.** Talk by a speaker TBA. Cookies and pop. All invited. *7 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 429–0619.*

★**"The Origins of Chinese Writing": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by U-M Center for Chinese Studies outreach coordinator Suiwah Chan. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**Susan Miller: Nicola's Books.** This astrologer reads from ***Indigo Rose,*** her debut novel about a 30-year-old woman who leaves her homeland of Jamaica to try and make it in Chicago. Also, signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 662–4110.*

★**Sarah Schulman: U-M English Department.** Fiction reading from this Manhattan-based author and playwright who writes contemporary urban fiction on gay and lesbian issues. The *San Francisco Chronicle* called her latest novel, *Shimmer,* "a well-researched, energetic, bitterly truthful novel . . . wonderfully nuanced." *7 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater. Free. 615–3710.*

★**"Breast Cancer Foundation": People's Food Co-op Herbal Wisdom Series.** Talk by EcoLogical Internal Medicine Clinic physician Amy Dean. *7:30–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required. 994–4589.*

★**Channeled Spiritual Discussion Group: Deep Spring Center.** All invited to share their spiritual and metaphysical questions with others with similar interests. The evening is led by Aaron, a "being of light" channeled by Barbara Brodsky. Aaron offers a talk and answers personal and universal questions. Also, socializing. *7:30 p.m., 3003 Washtenaw, suite 2 (entry on Glenwood, next to Arby's). Free, but donations are accepted. 971–3455.*

★**"The Birds of Poetry, the Poetry of Birds": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** Talks by 2 members of the U-M English faculty who are both poets and birders, creative writing teacher **Keith Taylor** and Middle English professor **Macklin Smith.** *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 677–3275.*

★**Poetry Group: Barnes & Noble.** All poets invited to bring samples of their work for the group to critique. Hosted by local poet Lawrence Thomas. *7:30 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**Christopher Harding and Thomas Lowenheim: U-M School of Music.** U-M piano professor Harding and Bloomington, Indiana, cellist Lowenheim perform Chopin's Sonata in G Minor for Piano and Violoncello, Cassado's Sonata in A Minor for Piano and Violoncello, and Saint-Saens's Sonata no. 2 in F. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0583.*

"Weird Wednesday": Dreamland Theater. Monthly open stage for off-the-wall performance artists, screenings of short videos and films, monologists, "self-styled comics, musicians, and other avant bards." Performers can sign up shortly before the

dance

Ronald K. Brown and Evidence
Kinetic storytelling

A man and a woman emerge from isolated cocoons of light and meet center stage. After a brief confrontational "monologue," the woman folds to the floor in supplication, vulnerable on her back, legs bent skyward, arms above her head, as if to say, "I'm spent; your turn." The man answers her by urgently repeating the ritual. Set to Philip Hamilton's incantatory music and Brenda Dolan's intense lighting design, this opening sequence of Ron Brown's *Walking Out the Dark* (2001) is an aching study in human disconnection.

But the episodic marquee piece—to be performed here on opening night when Brown brings his company Evidence to the Power Center on Sunday and Monday, January 16 and 17—is so much more, embodying as it does Brown's dizzying synthesis of influences and histories. As an African American choreographer, Brown honors the cultural continuum that includes Asadata Dafora (credited with being the first to meld West African dance with theatrical polish in the 1930s), Katherine Dunham, and Alvin Ailey—and transforms it. His expansive lexicon seamlessly fuses West African and Afro-Caribbean vernacular, Brazilian capoeira, modern dance, hip-hop, ballet, and club moves. Brown has described his cohesive aesthetic as "evidence" of everything that makes up who we are: our ancestors, life lessons, deeply felt yearnings, and spirituality.

When he founded Evidence in 1985 at the precocious age of nineteen, Brown wasn't comfortable cribbing from African dance, believing his efforts would be an illegitimate expression of that rich heritage. But since 1994, after choreographing and teaching in West Africa and conducting research in the African diaspora, he has experienced firsthand the contemporary evolution of traditional African dance, and the issue of authenticity resolved itself. Brown's dances explore community dynamics and human exchange, but they're also about giving yourself over to the divine, leaving the world behind. His work always reflects the heart and spirit behind the movement. This won't be news to those fortunate patrons who witnessed *High Life*, Brown's series of evocative migration stories, during the company's last visit, in 2001.

On January 17, *Come Ye* (2003), an homage to Nina Simone and a call for peaceful revolution, presents music by Simone and Fela Kuti, the Afro-pop musician and Nigerian political activist who is a Brown favorite. I had the chance to see *Come Ye* as a promising work-in-progress in 2003 at the American Dance Festival—a longtime nurturer of Brown's choreography. With its sweeping Senegalese and Cuban vocabularies, it has since graduated to become one of Brown's most affecting and addictive pieces.

Both programs—organized by UMS as part of the university's Martin Luther King Jr. weekend observances—open with the powerful *Upside Down* (1998). *Grace* (1999), originally commissioned for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, closes the Monday program.

—Stephanie Rieke

show. *8 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross, Depot Town, Ypsilanti. Donation. 657–2337.*

Hem: The Ark. Eight-piece Brooklyn, New York, ensemble whose music is an elegant, exquisitely bittersweet blend of country, folk, and pop that has been called "fragile pastoral Americana" and "sophisticated, subtle orch-pop that just happens to have a twang." The band's new Rounder CD, *Eveningland*, uses the orchestral textures of 70s country-pop and countrypolitan styles to create a lush, poignant bedding for the serene yet aching vocals of Sally Ellyson. Opening acts are singer-songwriters **David Mead** and **Dawn Landes.** *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $13.50 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Comedy Jamm Night": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 5 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

FILMS

MTF. "House of Flying Daggers" (Zhang Yimou, 2004). See 14 Friday. Mich., times TBA. **"A Very Long Engagement"** (Jean-Pierre Jeunet, 2004). See 14 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

20 THURSDAY

★International Neighbors. U-M MFit instructor Colleen Greene leads a fitness session that combines aerobic dance and endurance training. All area women invited. International Neighbors is a 46-year-old group of local women organized to welcome women from other countries during their stays in Ann Arbor. Nursery care provided for preschoolers. Refreshments. *9:30 a.m., Zion Lutheran Church Piper Hall, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 996–2912.*

★"Preparing the Collaborative Pianist": Ann Arbor Area Piano Teachers Guild. Talk by Cleveland Institute of Music piano professor Virginia Weckstrom. *10 a.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 996–1344.*

"Owl's Winter": Wild Swan Theater. *January 20–22.* This award-winning local children's theater revives one of its most popular shows, based on Arnold Lobel's endearing collection of 5 stories, *Owl at Home*. Children 3 to 8 years old can watch Owl find strange, fearful lumps in his bed, try to discourage the moon from following him home, make tea from tears conjured up when he runs out of water, and more. The live actors are complemented by large puppets created by Patricia Taylor, a U-M alum who recently worked for Jim Henson Muppets in New York. As with all Wild Swan productions, the performance is interpreted in American Sign Language for deaf viewers, and backstage "touch tours" and audio description are available for blind audience members. Cast: Sandy Ryder and Hilary Cohen. *10:30 a.m. & 1 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $9 (children, $7) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS. For group discounts or to arrange backstage tours, call 995–0530.*

★Healthy Kids Reading and Activity Hour: U-M MFit. Parents and preschoolers invited to hear a story on a health topic and do a simple related craft. This month's topic: **"Nutrition."** *11 a.m.–noon, East Ann Arbor Health Center, 4260 Plymouth Rd. Free. 647–5645.*

★Play Reading Group: Jewish Community Center. Local playwright-actress Rachel Urist hosts an improvised staged reading of a play TBA. *2–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★"The Moderns Between the Greeks and Romans: Tony Blair's Athenian Birthday": U-M Modern Greek Program. Lecture by *Times Literary Supplement* editor **Sir Peter Stothard,** author of the acclaimed *Thirty Days: An Inside Account of Tony Blair at War. 5 p.m., Michigan League Henderson Room. Free. 936–6099.*

★Book Club Discussion Group: 18th Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Symposium (U-M Office of Multicultural Affairs). U-M Office of Multicultural Affairs director Patricia Coleman Burns leads a discussion of Laurie Kaye Abraham's ***Better Off Dead? Health Care for the American Poor.*** *5–6 p.m., Michigan League Hussey Room. Free. 763–4652.*

★Laura Kasischke: U-M Residential College. This nationally acclaimed local poet and novelist, a U-M Residential College creative writing instructor, reads from ***Gardening in the Dark,*** her new collection of fast-moving poems that take unexpected turns into the flip side of consciousness, making visionary leaps from the familiar world to brilliant, surprising epiphanies. *5 p.m., RC Auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 276–4906.*

★Charles Kriel: U-M School of Art Penny Stamps Lecture Series. Talk by this multimedia artist and BBC VJ. *5 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 764–0397.*

"Discover the World of Plants": U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens. All kids ages 5–10 invited to follow a scavenger hunt, create a terrarium, and explore the conservatory. Snack. *6–7:30 p.m., Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. $5. Preregistration required. 998–7061.*

★Leslie Sansone: Borders Express. This fitness expert signs copies of the latest video in her ***Walk Away the Pounds*** exercise series. *6 p.m., Borders Express (formerly Waldenbooks), Briarwood mall. Free. 669–0785.*

★Ann Arbor Society for Origami. All invited (children & adults) to learn about and try their hand at origami, the Japanese art of paper folding. *7–9:30 p.m., Great Oaks Cohousing Common House, 500 Little Lake Dr. (off Parkland from Jackson Rd. between Wagner & Zeeb). Free. 434–5152.*

★"Understanding Natural Health Methods": Whole Foods Market. Local naturopath Audrey Blagsvedt discusses such natural health modalities as Chinese medicine, Ayurveda, naturopathy, homeopathy, herb use, holistic health, and alternative medicine. *7–8:30 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking and Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

★"Sacred Visions and Competing Voices: Who Speaks for Native Peoples When Repatriation Claims Are Made?": Michigan Archaeological Society. Talk by U-M anthropology professor John O'Shea. *7:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum Paleontology Lab, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 995–8806.*

★"Interesting Objects, Fabulous Stories: Reflections on Collecting": U-M Museum of Art. Talk by University of Calgary art history professor emeritus Daniel Mato, an expert on African art. *7:30 p.m., 0250 Rackham, 915 E. Washington. Free. 763–UMMA.*

★"Old Books: Trash or Treasures?": Ann Arbor District Library. Leaves of Grass Rare Books owner Tom Nicely talks about some of the interesting books and people he has encountered in his 30 years as a rare-book dealer. All invited to bring a few old books for a free appraisal. *7:30–9 p.m., AADL Northeast Branch, Plymouth Mall. Free. 327–4200.*

★"Refusing to Be Enemies": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room Salon 2005. Members of **Zeitouna,** a group of Arab and Jewish women, discuss their efforts to promote peaceful coexistence of the Arab and Jewish peoples through connection, trust, empathy, and actions focused in the creation of a sustainable future for Palestine and Israel. *7:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★"Weekend Trip to Spain and Las Fallas Festival": Of Global Interest. Local adventure tour company owner Heather O'Neal presents a multimedia slide show about her trip to Spain to see the spectacular Las Fallas parade of floats in the form of 3-dimensional satirical political cartoons, which are later burned in huge bonfires. *8 p.m., 120 Eighth St. Free. 369–3107.*

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Child Health Associates welcomes a new pediatrician, *Lauren Gold, MD* to our Ann Arbor office

We are pleased to announce that Lauren Gold, MD, will be joining our Child Health Associates – Ann Arbor pediatric care team on January 3, 2005.

Dr. Gold graduated from the University of Michigan Medical School in Ann Arbor. During her residency, she had three years of pediatric office experience at the University of Michigan's East Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti clinics. Dr. Gold was most recently employed by the U-M, practicing at offices in Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, and surrounding areas.

Dr. Gold believes that "it is important to treat children as individuals at every stage of their development and to partner with the patient and family in order to provide excellent clinical care."

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20 THURSDAY EVENTS *continued*

Rachael Davis: The Ark. This very talented young singer-songwriter from Cadillac, Michigan, impressed Ark audiences as opening act last year for Dar Williams and Chris Smither. She's a gifted singer whose influences range from Ella Fitzgerald to Patty Griffin, and her debut CD, *Minor League Deities*, is an impressively versatile collection of original songs. She recently released the CD *Live in Bremen, Germany. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $11 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★"Phedre": U-M Basement Arts Theater. *January 20–22.* U-M students perform Ted Hughes's translation of Racine's severe 17th-century tragedy based on the Greek myth. The dying queen Phaedra falls in love with her stepson Hippolytus, who in turn is enamored of the forbidden beauty Aricia. *Evening time TBA, Arena Stage (Frieze basement), 105 S. State. Free. 764–6800.*

"Norma and Wanda": Purple Rose Theater Company. *Every Wednesday–Sunday, January 20–March 19.* Guy Sanville directs local actors in the world premiere of Jeff Daniels's new comedy about 2 very different sisters who wind up in a bind involving a hit man, an old high school boyfriend, a chaotic church social, and a "to die for" recipe for Christmas sausage. Cast includes Michelle Mountain, Sandra Birch, Grant Krause, Jim Porterfield, Terri Heck. Mature audiences. *8 p.m., Garage Theater, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Preview tickets (Jan. 20–27): $17.50 (Wed. & Thurs. eves. and Sat. & Sun. matinees), $25 (Fri. & Sat. eves.). Opening night (Jan. 28): $32.50. After Jan. 28: $22.50 (Wed., Thurs., & Sun. eves.), $27.50 (Sat. & Sun. matinees), & $32.50 (Fri. & Sat. eves.). 433–ROSE.*

"Boston Marriage": Performance Network Professional Season. See 13 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Dave Mordal: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *January 20–22.* A star of the hit NBC reality show *Last Comic Standing*, Mordal is an ex-marine and former heavy equipment operator from Minnesota who is known for his grimly cynical but bitingly funny stories inspired by the perversities of ordinary people. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Friday early show is a nonsmoking show. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $16 reserved seating in advance & general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

Improv Inferno. See 6 Thursday. 8 & 10 p.m.

FILMS

MTF. "House of Flying Daggers" (Zhang Yimou, 2004). See 14 Friday. Mich., times TBA. **"A Very Long Engagement"** (Jean-Pierre Jeunet, 2004). See 14 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

21 FRIDAY

"Owl's Winter": Wild Swan Theater. See 20 Thursday. 10:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.

★Brown Bag Series: U-M Center for South Asian Studies. *January 21 & 28.* Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Today: U-M natural resources professor Arun Agrawal discusses **"Poverty Alleviation and Biodiversity Conservation: What We Don't Know."** Also this month: University of North Carolina history professor Sandria Freitag on **"Visual Culture in 20th-Century India: Negotiating the Imperial and the Local Through the Treatment of Place"** (January 28). *Noon, 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–5261.*

★A Cappella Choir: Huron High School. Richard Ingram leads high school singers in an arrangement of a Sephardic folk song by Temple Beth Emeth cantor Annie Rose. Also, works by Knut Nystedt, Z. Randall Stroope, Larry Farrow, and Rachmaninoff. *1 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 994–2040.*

★U-M Men's Swimming & Diving vs. Northwestern. *6 p.m., Canham Natatorium, Hoover at S. Division. Free. 764–0247.*

★5th Annual Open House: Women's Center of America. All invited to chat with staff and learn about the personal, financial, and career counseling the center offers. Refreshments. *6–9 p.m., Women's Center, 2425 W. Stadium. Free. 973–6779.* [5]

"Friday Night Live": Ann Arbor Parks Department Youth Outreach Program. Supervised dance party for middle (7–9:30 p.m.) and high school (9:30 p.m.–midnight) students. DJs play a variety of current R&B, rock, rap, and pop. *7 p.m.–midnight, Cobblestone Farm Barn, 2781 Packard. $3. 997–1615.*

★"Prometheus Bound": U-M Modern Greek Program. Screening of this 34-minute film choreographed and directed by Eva Palmer-Sikelianos, the choreographer and dancer who during the 1920s revived the tradition of Delphic dance. The film features the Delphic Festivals that she organized in 1927 and 1930. Followed by a talk about the film by University of Bristol (U.K.) classics and ancient history professor Pantelis Michelakis. *7 p.m., 3222 Angell Hall. Free. 936–6099.*

U-M Women's Gymnastics vs. Penn State. *7:30 p.m., Cliff Keen Arena, S. State at Hoover. $3 (youths age 12 & under, $1; U-M students, free). 763–2159.*

★Gustavus Adolphus College Choir: Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church. This renowned college choir from St. Peter, Minnesota, performs a wide range of sacred and secular music highlighted by 2 standards of the choral repertoire, Mendelssohn's "For God Commanded Angels" and Messiaen's "O Sacrum Convivium." Also, the eminent Canadian composer Imant Raminsh's colorful, vibrant "Mighty River, Mighty Fire" and other works TBA. *7:30 p.m., Trinity Church, 1400 W. Stadium. Free. 662–4419.*

★"Bach and Improvisation in the Liturgical Year": EMU Music Department. Organ and harpsichord recital by EMU music professor **Pamela Ruiter-Feenstra,** author of the recently published *Bach and Improvisation: Learning the Language. 7:30 p.m., EMU Alexander Bldg. Organ Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

"Who Am I This Time?"/"The Kid Nobody Could Handle": Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society of America. Veteran New York actor and playwright **Glen Williamson,** a founding member of the Actors' Ensemble and the New Directions Theater, presents his one-man play, a dramatization of 2 Kurt Vonnegut stories exploring the healing power of the arts. "Who Am I This Time?" is a 1961 comic tale (originally published as "My Name Is Everyone") about a small-town production of Tennessee Williams's *A Streetcar Named Desire*, and "The Kid Nobody Could Handle" is a fantasy about a trumpet and a pair of boots that compete for the soul of a destructive teenager. *7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner High School, 2230 Pontiac Trail. $10 (students, $7; family, $20) at the door only. 485–3764.*

★Ann Arbor Train & Trolley Watchers. Club member Steve Sobel shows and discusses **"Potpourri . . . 2004,"** an assortment of slides he's taken over the past year, and Steve Kindschy discusses **"Tehachapi,"** the famous train-watching spot in southern California where a patient viewer may see a train loop back on itself. *8 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church social hall, 306 N. Division ("just up the hill from the Amtrak station"). Free. 996–8345, 971–8329.*

★Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department. Readings by U-M creative writing instructors and grad students. Today: a short story by **Derek Lee** and poetry by **Joanna Bock.** *8 p.m., location TBA. Free. 615–3710.*

★Angell Hall Observatory Open House: U-M Student Astronomical Society. All invited to peer through the telescope on the Angell Hall roof for celestial visions. Members of the U-M Student Astronomical Society are on hand to answer questions. *8–10 p.m., fifth floor rooftop observatory, Angell Hall (from the large State St. entrance, take one of the elevators on the left). Free. 936–3626.*

"Wake Up! . . . and Smell the Coffee": Out Loud Chorus. *January 21 & 22 (different locations).* Jon Moore directs this chorus for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people in a coffee-flavored program that includes pieces like "The Caffeine Overload Polka" and "The Return of Mrs. Olsen," as well as pieces like "The Rhythm of Life" from *Sweet Charity. 8 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Liberal Arts Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $10 in advance at Common Language Bookstore and www.aaoutloud.org, $12 at the door. 973–6084.*

Small Potatoes: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Acclaimed Chicago-based husband-and-wife duo of Jacquie Manning and Rich Prezioso who are known for their tightly woven vocal harmonies and their proficiency on an array of instruments. Their repertoire is an eclectic, folksy mix of music from country & western, blues, and swing to Irish, along with originals in a mix of those idioms. "They're original, funny, energetic, profound, always respectful of the music but always daring to try new things," says Phee Sherline of the San Diego Folk Heritage Society. "When they get their hands on music, rhythmically and harmonically, it just takes off." *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $12 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 662–4536, 665–8558.*

"The Old-Time Tidal Wave": The Ark. Old-time American music double bill. **The Mammals** is a Boston-based rock 'n' roll string trio that blends traditional music with punk energy and a Guthrie-esque spirit of political protest. Members are guitarist and banjoist Tao Rodriguez-Seeger (a grandson of Pete Seeger), fiddler Ruth Ungar (daughter of Jay Ungar), and clawhammer banjoist Michael Merenda, who is also the group's principal songwriter. "The Mammals

klezmer

Yiddishe Cup
Shake your tokhes

It's only in the last twenty-five years that klezmer music has moved into concert halls. Before that it was always dance music, played at weddings, bar mitzvahs, and parties. Occasionally it was the vehicle of Jewish comedy. Mickey Katz was perhaps the greatest proponent of that branch of klezmer: beginning in the 1940s and for the next twenty years, Katz recorded many Yinglish parodies like "Haim afen Range" ("Home on the Range") and "K'nock around the Clock," with a cockamamy mishmash of English and Yiddish words.

Katz was a native of Cleveland, which is home also to his heirs apparent, the klezmer band Yiddishe Cup. Its most recent recording, *Meshugeneh Mambo*, is, among other things, an homage to Katz, featuring five of his parodies, plus others in that vein. Yiddishe Cup has added many new lyrics that measure up well to Katz's zany concoctions. (Its leader, Bert Stratton, is a 1973 U-M English graduate and two-time Hopwood Award winner.) The sentimental classic "My Yiddishe Mama" now features deep psychological insights like "She's the one who made me what I am today—oy vey!"

Like Katz, who was an excellent jazz clarinetist and played with, among others, big-band leader Spike Jones, of "Yes, We Have No Bananas" fame, Yiddishe Cup is not just about shtik. Here there is plenty of technik. These musicians are completely convincing as they romp through a dizzying variety of genres. Their "My Yiddishe Mama" starts with a shouting blues vocal in which they sound like the kind of boys Yiddishe mamas, and all other mamas, warn their daughters about; then it morphs successively into the theme from *Goldfinger*, the 1950s doo-wop classic "Little Darlin'," and the theme from *The Patty Duke Show*. They can also play it straight. Their "Second Avenue Square Dance" and "Li'l Gypsy" needn't be ashamed next to any traditional klezmer band's versions.

But they do the shtik particularly well. "I Am a Man of Constant Blessings," their parody of Ralph Stanley's "Man of Constant Sorrow," from the hit documentary *Down from the Mountain* (which, if you haven't seen it, is not about Moses and Mount Sinai), substitutes the Hebrew blessings over wine and bread for the original words. The lyric is backed with Jew's harp (nu, what else?), banjo, and fiddle and may be the first example of the next big thing in world music. We've had unlikely hybrids, like AfroCelt. Now, why not Yidlacchian—or maybe Appalish?

You want I should give you a piece advice? Go see Yiddishe Cup at the Ark on Saturday, January 22. The Ark is even opening a dance floor for this concert. You can dance a crazy kazatski along with Yiddishe Cup's shtikmeister, Daniel Ducoff. Go ahead, shake your tokhes. It couldn't hurt.

—Sandor Slomovits

redraw the boundaries of old-time music with breathtaking musicianship and a delicious sense of mischief. On their new CD, *Rock That Babe*, they play with volcanic, champing-at-the-bit energy, sweetened by a sublime sense of space," says a *Boston Globe* reviewer. **Uncle Earl** is an acclaimed all-female acoustic ensemble, originally from Ann Arbor and now based in Colorado, that plays traditional American folk music with a strong Appalachian base. Its repertoire also includes originals and covers of folk-based songs by contemporary songwriters, and its performances feature a mix of piercing lead vocals and glistening 3-part vocal harmonies. Founded by guitarist and mandolinist K. C. Groves, the current lineup also includes fiddle virtuoso Rayna Gellert, banjoist Abby Washburn, guitarist and clogger Kristin Andreassen, and bassist and mandolinist Sharon Gilchrist. The band has released a CD, *She Went Upstairs*. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $15 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

Play Reading: Dreamland Theater. Reading of local actor-director Richard Ritter's untitled new play about a young woman on the skids in Detroit's Cass Corridor who becomes a live-in companion to a woman suffering from sleeping sickness. Readers: Kate Ritter, Naia Venturi, and Misha Grey. *8 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross, Depot Town, Ypsilanti. Donation. 657–2337.*

"Dancing DisPlay": EMU Dance Program. *January 21–23.* A program of modern, hip-hop, ballet, and jazz dance highlighted by *Craps*, an award-winning work by the renowned modern dance choreographer **Bill Evans.** It is a playful, athletic work that explodes with diagonal reaches, falls, and idiosyncratic gestures as its 5 female dancers compete with each other in subtle and not so subtle ways. The program also includes choreography by EMU dance professors **Sherry Jerome** and **Julianne O'Brien Pedersen** and by 3 local choreographers, Swing City Dance Studio (Canton) codirector **Tim Smola,** Peter Sparling Dance Company assistant director **Holly Hobbs,** and **Amy Cova,** a member of the hip-hop dance company Gravity. Jerome premieres *Those Walls*, a modern dance that explores barriers to patterns, orientations, and initiation of movement, and Pedersen premieres *There, There, There*, a trio, set to text and music by Dvorak, that explores the significance of birth order among siblings. Hobbs premieres *Saisons Sensuelles*, a contemporary septet based on Colette's writings about pure and impure love and set to a Jean-Michel Damase score. Smola premieres *Ch-Check It Out*, an exciting, highly physical hip-hop piece set to recorded Beastie Boys music and live drumming by Brian Sharp. Cova premieres *Akht*, a solo celebrating sisterhood set to music by Shakira. *8 p.m., Quirk Theater, Ford St., EMU campus, Ypsilanti. (Take Huron River Dr. east to Lowell St. Take Lowell to Ford St. and turn right onto Ford. The theater is on the left, with parking on the right.) Tickets $10 (students with ID, $8) in advance and at the door. 487–1221.*

★**"Phedre": U-M Basement Arts Theater.** See 20 Thursday. Evening times TBA.

"Norma and Wanda": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 20 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Boston Marriage": Performance Network Professional Season. See 13 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Improv Inferno. See 1 Saturday. 8 & 10 p.m.

Dave Mordal: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 20 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

★**Annual Collage Concert: U-M School of Music.** One of the music school's most popular events is this hour of nonstop music in a wide range of contrasting styles. Classical, jazz, big band, vocal, and pop ensembles and soloists segue rapidly from one idiom to the next. Performers are U-M and guest ensembles that include orchestras, choirs, chamber groups, and soloists. This event fills up quickly. *8:15 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free admission but tickets (available 3–7 p.m. today at the Power Center box office) required. 763–4726.*

Amp Fiddler: The Blind Pig. Contemporary funk-fueled soul by this Detroit-bred singer-songwriter, a former P-Funk Allstars keyboardist. "Many artists could list soul, funk, jazz, hip-hop and R&B as influences, but few could put such a personal and individual stamp on their sound," says BBC music critic Katie Blackwell in her review of Amp Fiddler's latest CD, *Waltz of a Ghetto Fly*. "There are some standout moments. 'Superficial' offers up a deeply seductive slice of funk, while the plaintive soul of 'Waltz of a Ghetto Fly' closes the album in a suitably ruminative style. At the center of the sound is Amp's distinctive voice which, despite its raw edge, always leaves a sweet taste." *10 p.m.–2 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. First. Tickets $15 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Undertow" (David Green, 2004). *January 21–27.* Gripping Southern Gothic thriller about 2 boys on the run from their murderous uncle, set in the decaying industrial landscape of rural Georgia and drenched with superstition and the flavors of myth. The *New York Times* notes that "the more intoxicated [*Undertow*] becomes with rural desolation and fecundity, the more deeply in touch it puts you with its characters' souls." Soundtrack by Philip Glass. Jamie Bell, Josh Lucas, Devon Alan. $8.50 (children, students, veterans, & seniors, $6.25; members, $5.50). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

22 SATURDAY

Farm Toy Show: Saline Future Farmers of America 14th Annual Benefit. This show and sale of farm toys is aimed at both kids and serious collectors—one man last year bought $4,000 worth, and some regulars have $20,000 worth of such toys in their homes, an organizer estimates. Includes NASCAR items, tractors, pedal-push tractors, Beanie Babies, and farm vehicle, harvesting vehicle, and truck collectibles. Vendor tables available. *9 a.m.–3 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Admission $3 (ages 6–12, $2; 5 & younger, free). 429–8030, ext. 2343.*

"Big Winter Book Sale": Friends of the Ann Arbor District Library. *January 22–24.* A wide range of top-quality used books and records for adults and children. January 22 special: all hardback books are

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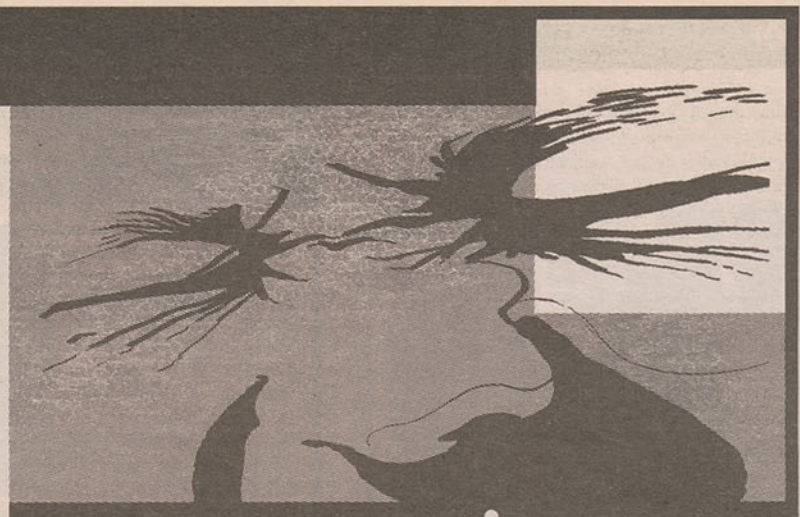

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50¢, all paperbacks 25¢. January 23 & 24 specials: fill a grocery bag with books & records for $4, or fill a Friends of the Library book bag for $10. The Friends Book Shop will be restocked for reopening in February and remain open every Saturday and Sunday through April. Proceeds from the sales go to a variety of library projects. *10 a.m.–4 p.m. (Jan. 22). 1:30–4:30 p.m. (Jan. 23), & 10 a.m.–8 p.m. (Jan. 24). AADL, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free admission. 327–4211.*

★**"Annual Winter Stone Fly Search": Huron River Watershed Council.** All invited to join a watershed-wide stone fly hunt, which sometimes involves chopping through ice and coping with fast-freezing water samples. This is the Watershed Council's most popular event. "People just come back glowing—they have no idea how much life is active under the ice," an organizer notes. Bring warm clothes and a hot drink (waterproof shoes not required). *10:30 a.m. & noon, meet at the NEW Center to carpool, 1100 N. Main. Free. Preregistration required by Jan. 14. 769–5971.*

★**Safety Day: Baskin Robbins.** *January 22 & 29 (different locations).* All kids age 12 & under invited to receive a free child ID booklet and get safety tips from Ann Arbor police officers. Also, an appearance by the Baskin Robbins mascot Scoop Dog. *11 a.m.–3 p.m., Baskin Robbins, 1952 W. Stadium (Jan. 22) & 2731 Plymouth Rd. (Jan. 29). Free. 973–5559.*

★**"Mastodons and the Ice Age": U-M Exhibit Museum/Ann Arbor District Library.** See 15 Saturday. *11 a.m.–noon, AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Packard & Stone School rds.). Free. Preregistration required. 327–4200.*

"Owl's Winter": Wild Swan Theater. See 20 Thursday. 11 a.m.

U-M Men's Basketball vs. Wisconsin. *12:15 p.m., Crisler Arena. $15 & $22. 764–0247.*

★**U-M Men's Swimming & Diving vs. Indiana.** *1 p.m., Canham Natatorium, Hoover at S. Division. Free. 764–0247.*

"Track-n-Trail": Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. Hudson Mills naturalist Jennifer Hollenbeck leads a forest hike to find out which animals have been there, what they were doing, and when they may come back. *1 p.m., Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. $2. (Park entry fee: $4 per vehicle.) Preregistration required. 426–8211.*

"Moonwalk": Leslie Science Center (Ann Arbor Parks Department). Leslie Science Center staff lead a family-oriented woodland hike under an almost full moon and tell some moon lore around a fire while sipping hot chocolate, and then lead a return hike to explore the nocturnal side of nature. *1–3 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. $6 (family, $25). 997–1553.*

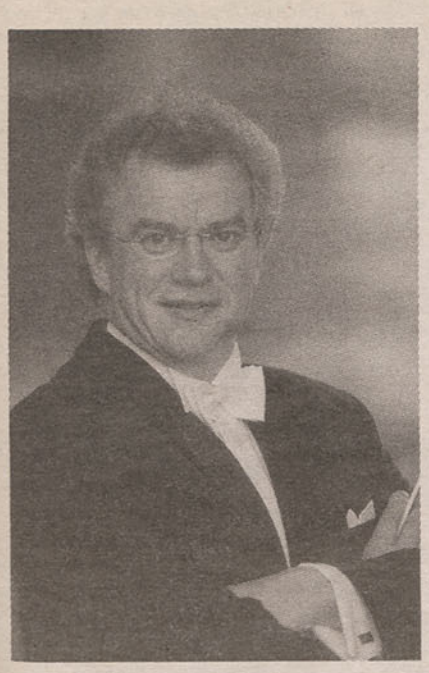
★**Chinese Culture and Heritage Celebration: Ann Arbor District Library.** Ann Arbor Chinese Center of Michigan and Ann Arbor Chinese Dancing School students perform traditional **Chinese dances,** demonstrate **martial arts skills,** and demonstrate **Chinese yo-yo stunts.** Also, IMDiversity.com *Asian American Village* contributing editor Frances Kai-Hwa presents some of her favorite **Lunar New Year stories and songs,** and Folk Art International representative Carol Stepanchuk, a prolific writer on Chinese folk culture, presents ***The Beanie Baby Zodiac Play,*** an interactive rhyming play about the Chinese Zodiac. Display of Chinese art and handicrafts. Books about the Lunar New Year Festival, Chinese culture, and Chinese Americans available for checkout. *1–2 p.m., AADL Northeast Branch, Plymouth Mall. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Lift Every Voice and Sing: A Celebration of the Life of Martin Luther King": U-M Turner Geriatrics Center.** Performances by choirs from Huron and Pioneer high schools and local churches, and talks by local pastors. Refreshments. *1–3 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**"Winter Explorers: A Program for Kids": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.** WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner shows kids how to look for winter insects and animal tracks and homes. Hot drinks after the walk. *2 p.m., County Farm Park Platt Rd. lot. Free. 971–6337.*

"Stories and Songs of the Great Lakes Region": Waterloo Natural History Association. Popular Great Lakes troubadour **Lee Murdock** presents a program of tunes and tales about the rugged days of the lumberjacks and wooden sailing schooners. *2–3 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd., Chelsea. (Take I-94 west to exit 157, follow Pierce Rd. north to Bush Rd., and go west on Bush Rd. The Discovery Center is on the left.) $2 (family, $5; WNHA members, free). Preregistration required. $6 vehicle entry*

classical music



The Lahti Symphony
Honest and real and true

These days, the best conductors are not German, not French, not Russian, and not even English. These days, the best conductors are Finnish.

It's true. Think of Esa-Pekka Salonen in Los Angeles, creating an orchestra equally compelling with Beethoven as with Boulez. Think of Jukka-Pekka Saraste in Toronto, creating an orchestra equally convincing with Debussy as with Dallapiccola. And think of Osmo Vänskä in Minneapolis, creating an orchestra that can play anything and make it sound honest and real and true and, above all, deeply musical.

So for local classical cognoscenti, the must-see concert of the 2004–2005 UMS season is Osmo Vänskä and the Lahti Symphony on Wednesday, January 26. Although Vänskä has done tremendous things recently in Minnesota, he first came into his own as the music director of the Lahti Symphony. In his nearly two decades with Lahti, Vänskä took a provincial ensemble from the coldest corner of Europe and turned it into one of the hottest orchestras on the continent. Lean, hard, tight, and muscular, the Lahti may not have the voluptuous warmth of the Vienna Philharmonic or the stupendous power of the Berlin Philharmonic. But when it comes to orchestral virtuosity and, more important, to utter dedication to the music, the Lahti stands with the best in the world.

It achieved that position thanks to Osmo Vänskä. He was trained as an orchestral musician and spent more than a decade playing the clarinet in various Finnish philharmonics before he put it down to pick up the baton, so he understands how an orchestra works. Vänskä knows how to mold a tempo, how to shape a phrase, how to clarify a texture, how to put musical mass in motion and drive it to a climax. To listen to a Vänskä recording is to hear a piece as if for the first time.

For their first Ann Arbor appearance, Vänskä and the Lahti will be performing music by Tchaikovsky, Prokofiev, Kokkonen, and Sibelius. With Canadian pianist Louis Lortie, they will play the last of Tchaikovsky's three piano concertos and the first of Prokofiev's five piano concertos. On their own, they will play Joonas Kokkonen's orchestral interludes from his tragic opera *The Last Temptations,* and Jean Sibelius's heroic Symphony no. 2. Both composers are quintessentially Finnish—straight, strong, and severe, without a single superfluous note. Both works are peaks in their careers—Sibelius's Second is the first truly great Finnish symphony, and Kokkonen's opera is the summation of his life and art. And both works are sure to be performed with complete dedication by Vänskä and the Lahti.

—James Leonard

fee, unless you already have a state motor vehicle permit ($24 per year). 475–3170.

★**"Celebration of Reproductive Choice": First Unitarian Universalist Church.** Talk by Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice (Washington, D.C.) multicultural programs director Leslie Malachi. *2:30–4 p.m., First Unitarian Church Sanctuary, 4001 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. at Ellsworth. Free. 663–6431.*

"Bats!!": U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens. Members of the Bat Conservation Alliance show live bats and discuss their secret habits. *4–5:30 p.m., Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. $10. Preregistration required. 998–7061.*

"Wake Up! . . . and Smell the Coffee": Out Loud Chorus. See 21 Friday. 4 p.m., Genesis of Ann Arbor, 2309 Packard Rd.

★**"Harmonize in 2005": Celestial Vibrations.** Celestial Vibrations CEO Gayle Fitzgerald, a master healer and numerologist, discusses how to align with numerological trends for greater happiness, peace, and abundance. *5–6 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore, 114 S. Main. Free; donations accepted. 327–8423.*

★**"Almost a Full Moon Hike": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.** WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner leads a sublunary hike to gaze at the silvery lake, call owls, and examine winter stars. Hot drinks afterwards. *7 p.m., Independence Lake County Park, 3200 Jennings, Dexter. (Take US-23 to Six Mile Rd. exit & follow the signs.) Free ($4 park entrance fee per vehicle). 971–6337.*

★**"Views from Inside the Beltway: Behind the Scenes at the Smithsonian and State Department Libraries": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talks by Smithsonian Institution Libraries director Nancy Gwinn and U.S. State Department Ralph J. Bunche Library chief librarian Elaine Cline. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

Team USA: USA Hockey National Team. *January 22, 23, & 25.* This Ann Arbor–based program features 46 of the best 16- and 17-year-old American ice hockey players under the guidance of U.S. National coach Jeff Jackson. The program fields 2 teams—the Under-17 Team and the Under-18 Team—that play full schedules, September–March, against teams from the top American junior leagues (players ages 18–21), American college teams, and comparable European national teams. Today's match, the only home game this month, features **Team USA Under-17 vs. Youngstown** of the North American Hockey League. *7 p.m., Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley Dr. at Scio Church Rd. $12 (students & children, $6). 327–9251.*

Athletic Mic League: The Neutral Zone. Local hip-hop troupe, with guest performers Tashere De Enagetic, Tenacity and SA, NowOn, and Composition. *7–11:30 p.m., The Neutral Zone, 637 S. Main. $5 (members, $3). 214–9995.*

U-M Men's Gymnastics vs. Oklahoma. *7:30 p.m., Cliff Keen Arena, S. State at Hoover. $3 (youths age 12 & under, $1; U-M students, free). 763–2159.*

★**Mind, Body, & Spirit Readers Group: Barnes & Noble.** Local writer Deedee Briski discusses her ***Impressive Deception: Creation or Evolution—You Decide.*** Also, signing. *7:30 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

International Folk Dancing. Balkan, Middle Eastern, and European line dancing, and occasional couple dancing, to recorded music. No partner needed. *8–11 p.m., Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver (off Nixon). $3–$5 (students, $1). 995–0011.*

"Jewish Jazz Greats with the Dean Solden Quintet": Temple Beth Emeth. Renowned local composer-pianist Solden leads his quintet in works by George Gershwin, Irving Berlin, and Paul Simon, and other American Jewish composers. Followed by a reception. *8 p.m., Temple Beth Emeth sanctuary, 2309 Packard. $10 in advance, $12 at the door. 665–4744.*

I Can't Breathe Comic Collective: Dreamland Theater. An evening of music, short films, and poetry readings featuring local poet **Carol "Toots" Morris,** who reads poems from her debut CD, *Atomic Picnic,* including "Female Driver," "Releasing the Wild Woman," and "Monet on the Beach." Her readings are interspersed with improvised sounds by local keyboardist Gary Hnizda and local singer-songwriter Laura Massaro. Opening act is **Velveteen Blue,** the local duo of veteran guitarists Laurence Miller and Brian Delaney, who perform what they call "cracked-corn country and slap-sappy lounge." Also, a screening of short films by Patrick Ritch, Miller, and Morris. *8 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross, Depot Town, Ypsilanti. Donation. 657–2337.*

"Annual Mozart Birthday Bash": Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. AASO music director Arie Lipsky conducts the orchestra in a concert celebrating Mozart's 249th birthday. The program features a concert version of Mozart's comic opera *The Abduction from the Seraglio.* The work is a *Singspiel,* or a set of sparkling, Turkish-flavored arias stitched together with spoken dialogue. Mozart wrote this ebullient, delightfully charming music at the happiest time in his short life, while engaged to marry his sweetie Konstanze, which he did 3 weeks after the opera's premiere. Soloists are Ypsilanti soprano Anita Johnson, North Carolina soprano Lauren Cotten, New York tenor Vale Rideout, New York tenor Glenn Alamilla, and Ohio bass John Shuffle. German, supertitles. The performance is preceded at 7 p.m. by a lecture by Lipsky, who discusses the music and performs examples on flute. *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $10–$38 (seniors, $10–$36; students, $10–$34; children 12 & under, $10–$30) in advance at the AASO office, 527 E. Liberty, suite 208. Half-price rush tickets for students with ID at the door only. 994–4801.*

Yiddishe Cup: The Ark. *See review, p. 73.* Acclaimed Cleveland-based klezmer band known for its blend of virtuosic ensemble virtuosity and wacky humor rooted in a 50s Borscht Belt ethos. Dance floor available. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $15 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★**"Phedre": U-M Basement Arts Theater.** See 20 Thursday. Evening times TBA.

"Norma and Wanda": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 20 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Dancing DisPlay": EMU Dance Program. See 21 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Boston Marriage": Performance Network Professional Season. See 13 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Improv Inferno. See 1 Saturday. 8 & 10 p.m.

Dave Mordal: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 20 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

3rd Annual Michigan Tango Festival: Michigan Argentine Tango Club. *January 22–24 (different locations).* Three nights of dancing to recorded music spun by DJs. Also, weekend dance workshops (see umich.edu/~umtango for schedule). Tonight: a milonga (tango dance party) with recorded music by DJs Robin Thomas and Jaimes Friedgen. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Michigan Union Ballroom, & 2–6 a.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $20 (students, $10) in advance, $25 (students, $15) at the door. Preregistration requested. 327–0642.*

"Paisley Product 2005": The Blind Pig. Prince tribute show headlined by **Midwest Product,** a local experimental electronica band, and **Dykehouse,** a local 80s-style pop singer-songwriter who accompanies himself on guitar and prerecorded techno rhythms. Opening acts TBA. *10 p.m.–2 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. First. Tickets $8 (ages 19 & 20, $10) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

FILMS

MTF. "Undertow" (David Green, 2004). See 21 Friday. Mich., times TBA. **U-M Center for Chinese Studies. "Platform"** (Jia Zhang-Ke, 2000). Ambitious chronicle of the emergence of the new China, viewed through the transformation over the course of the 80s of 4 members of a state-run peasant culture group into the All-Star Rock and Breakdance Electronic Band. Mandarin, subtitles. No children under 12 admitted. FREE. 764–6308. Angell Hall Auditorium A, 8 p.m.

23 SUNDAY

Tu B'Shevat Celebration: Jewish Cultural Society. All invited to celebrate the Jewish "New Year of the Trees" and learn about the historical, cultural, and ecological aspects of the holiday. Activities include Matthaei Botanical Gardens conservatory tours with an emphasis on plants of the ancient world, a scavenger hunt, storytelling, puppet shows, music, environmental projects, and a seder. *10 a.m.–noon, U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. $5 (kids, $2) conservatory admission. Reservations required. 975–9872.*

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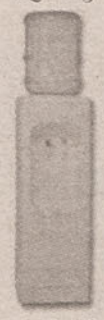

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"The Monster Ann Arbor Record & CD Show": Orangapoid Productions. This popular fair is back at a new location with more than 50 dealers from a half dozen states selling rare and collectible used records and CDs as well as hard-to-find new releases. Includes every popular music genre from rock 'n' roll, jazz, soul, pop, country, and blues to funk, punk, surf, thrash, heavy metal, garage rock, and more. Also, rock music books, rock videos, posters, and assorted popular culture memorabilia. This show draws huge crowds all day long. Come early, or someone else might snatch up the record you're looking for. Food and beverages for sale. Patrons may bring in a small number of records to sell. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. $3 admission (children 10 & under, free). For information or to reserve a dealer table, call 475–1006.*

★**"The Enduring Art of the Korean Potter": U-M Museum of Art.** UMMA Asian art curator Maribeth Graybill discusses the Korean ceramics from the 2nd to the 20th centuries featured in this exhibit (see Galleries). *1 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 763–UMMA.*

"Open House Swap Meet and Sale for Astrological Bookworms and Fans of Astro-Crapola": Astrology Study Group of Washtenaw County. Show and sale of astrology books, magazines, and "cosmic-themed doodads." Also, "free stuff." Short book reports on astrology-related books presented at 1, 2, 3, & 4 p.m. If you're too shy to read your book report, an organizer says, "just write down a few paragraphs and bring it—we'll get some show-off Leo to read for you!" Refreshments. Astrology book vendors may sell their books in return for $5 or 10% of their sales. *1–5 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross, Depot Town, Ypsilanti. Admission fee: 2 used astrology books or 1 book report. 434–4555.*

"American Folk Art": Ann Arbor Women Artists. Talk by a speaker TBA. Followed by a folk art craft. *1–2:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. $11 materials fee. 994–8004.*

★**"The National Road": Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County.** Northville Public Library local history librarian Al Smitely discusses the construction, between 1811 and 1834, and subsequent history of the first federally funded interstate highway, which ran from Cumberland, Maryland, to Vandalia, Illinois. It served as the primary route to the western frontier and stimulated dramatic economic growth along its path. About 824 miles of it still exist as US-40. Followed by a presentation by club members Barbara Giezentaner and Marcia McCrary on **"Using Church Records."** *1:30 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Health System Education Center, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off E. Huron River Dr. at Clark Rd.). Use parking lot P and look for the club's signs. Free. 483–2799.*

U-M Women's Basketball vs. Indiana. *2 p.m., Crisler Arena. $3 (youths under 18, $1; U-M students with ID, free). 764–0247.*

★**"Winter Festival": Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor.** A family-oriented seasonal celebration with cozy wintry craft activities (at the Newport campus only), storytelling, and student performances. Fourth-grade teacher Martha McDowell discusses Waldorf education, inspired by the early-20th-century scientist and philosopher Rudolf Steiner. Also, a chance to meet faculty and alumni, view student work, observe classes, and learn about the school and its curriculum. Refreshments. *2–4:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner School Newport campus (grades K–8), 2775 Newport Road, & Pontiac Trail campus (grades 9–12), 2230 Pontiac Trail. Free. 995–4141, 669–9394.*

★**Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild.** All invited to listen to guild members swap stories or bring their own to tell. *2–4 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 971–5763.*

★**Book Club: Association of Women in Computing.** All invited to discuss Sheila Ellison's inspirational guide ***If Women Ruled the World.*** Beverages and hors d'oeuvres. *2 p.m., location TBA. Free. 930–7854.*

★**"Mastodons and the Ice Age": U-M Exhibit Museum/Ann Arbor District Library.** See 15 Saturday. *2–3 p.m., AADL, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. Preregistration required. 327–8301.*

"Dancing DisPlay": EMU Dance Program. See 21 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Norma and Wanda": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 20 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Boston Marriage": Performance Network Professional Season. See 13 Thursday. 2 & 7 p.m.

Team USA: USA Hockey National Team. See 22 Saturday. Today: **Team USA Under-17 vs. Cleveland** of the North American Hockey League. 3 p.m.

Japanese Tea Ceremony: U-M Museum of Art. Tea ceremony practitioners enact a traditional Japanese tea ceremony (25 minutes) in the museum's tea-

A Taste of the Season
Winters past

A weird political kitchen colander, an elaborate silver tea set from the late Ann Arbor philanthropist Philip Bach (right), and an elegant wooden mini-sleigh resembling a baby carriage on runners, once used to whiz local children around on the snow, highlight the *Taste of the Season* exhibition at the Museum on Main Street, evoking winters past.

Near an array of such period kitchen tools as a "lemoner," intricate cookie cutters, and carved wooden butter molds hangs a metal colander whose punched drainer holes spell out GRANT COLFAX. After the Civil War, Republicans Ulysses Grant and Schuyler Colfax were elected president and vice-president, taking office in 1869. Recalling the fervent political nature of many early area newspapers, I wondered whether this item was campaign swag distributed by stumpers intent on implanting their message in homes, or perhaps a sort of nineteenth-century bumper sticker purchased by an ardent if voteless woman expressing her political convictions in the kitchen in lieu of a polling place. I imagined the colander displayed extra prominently in a home with a Democratic husband.

As I pondered this relic, museum curator Alice Cerniglia entered the room with a visitor and chatted about a dress on display by the ornate Bach tea set. Examining the set, I tried to puzzle out the functions of its eight curlicued vessels crowned with cupids. A samovar for hot water held a small Bunsen burner underneath, and two paired items were clearly a sugar and creamer, but for all I knew the remainder could have been canopic jars. When I overheard Cerniglia speculate on the construction of a wooden fan by saying, "It was the eighteen seventies, so they had scroll saws," I knew she was the person to ask.

Cerniglia revealed that a mysterious globe was the butter chiller, and an urnlike vase was the slop jar. She pinged the table bell on display, explaining that hanging sashes in a house's various rooms once connected to kitchen bells, rung to summon servants. "Now we have—what, cell phones?" she laughed.

When I asked her why a display of dainty period Christmas cards showed images of roses and leaves instead of more familiar iconography, she drew a connection to the pagan origins of Christmas, with ancient solstice-celebration use of evergreens signifying the endurance of life at the turning point of midwinter darkness. I dimly recalled corroborating biblical verses in Jeremiah 10:2–5, forbidding the use of what sounds awfully like a (pagan) Christmas tree.

Period recipes, an entire elaborately set dinner table, and a dinner-table chart showing the proper placement of "Gravy for Ducks," "Parsnips," and "Oyster Sauce," among thirteen dinner dishes, round out the exhibition, which will remain on display through February. *—Laura Bien*

New exhibits this month:

Ann Arbor District Library. ***Main Branch:*** *Teen ArtMakers: Off the Wall Gallery; Exploring Africa: 2005 Michigan Quilt Artists Invitational; Curriculum of Color: Student Watercolor Paintings from the Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor, Kindergarten–Twelfth Grade.* ***Malletts Creek Branch:*** *Projects by the Huron Valley Chapter of the American Institute of Architects* (January 18–February 27). 327–4510.

Artrain USA. *Native View: Influences of Modern Culture* (January 29 & 30). See 29 Saturday. 747–8300.

Burns Park Gallery. *After Tears: Works by Matsamai Tshabalala* (through January 31). 730–9851.

Dreamland Theater. *Traps!* (January 8–31). 657–2337.

Duderstadt Center Gallery. *The Throne of the Sea* (January 7–14). Reception 7 Friday, 6–9 p.m. 764–7544.

EMU Ford Gallery. *Annual Faculty Exhibition* (January 6–28). Reception 6 Thursday, 4–6 p.m. 487–1268.

Gifts of Art (U-M Hospitals). *Arctic National Wildlife Refuge: Seasons of Life and Land* (through February 9). 936–ARTS.

Kreft Center for the Arts (Concordia College). *Caren Canier: Recent Works* (January 18–February 25). 995–7591.

Lane Hall. *Visualizing Women in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering* (January 3–August 31). 647–0774.

Riverside Arts Center. *Eastern Michigan University Art Education Student Exhibition* (January 5–28). Reception 5 Wednesday, 6–8 p.m. 761–3661.

Tabor Hill. *Paintings by Local Artists* (January 5–31). 662–9463.

U-M Clements Library. *The American Magazine* (through February 23). 764–2347.

U-M Exhibit Museum of Natural History. *Tevau: Red Feather Money of the Solomon Islands* (January 1–June 30). 763–4191.

U-M Institute for the Humanities. *Piranesi: Selected Etchings from the Collection of Bruce W. Frier* (January 10–February 18). See 12 Wednesday. 936–3518.

U-M Museum of Art. *Art of the Written Word in the Middle East* (January 15–June 6). 763–UMMA.

U-M Residential College/East Quad Art Gallery. *Wendell Heers: Sculpture and Installation* (January 7–February 18). Reception 5 Wednesday, 4–6 p.m. 763–0176.

Washington Street Gallery. *Balance and Flow: Clay Vessels by Kay Yourist* (January 4–February 13). Reception 14 Friday, 7–9 p.m. 761–2287.

Washtenaw Community College Gallery-One. *Transitions/Translations: Innovations in Basketry* (January 10–March 14). 477–8512.

For a complete listing of local galleries, see the 2004–2005 Ann Arbor Observer City Guide or arborweb.com.

house, followed by a discussion of the ritual's symbolism. This month's ceremony, enacted in the Ura style, is **"New Year Celebration."** Preceded at 2 p.m. by *shakuhachi* (Japanese flute) music performed by Michael Gould. Arrive early for a seat. *3 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. $3 suggested donation. 763–UMMA.*

★Jupiter String Quartet: Friends of Chamber Music at Pease. Performance by this nationally acclaimed Boston-based ensemble, originally formed in 2001 at the Cleveland Institute of Music. The Jupiter won the 2004 grand prizes at the Fischoff National Chamber Music and Banff International String Quartet competitions. Program: Mozart's Quartet in D Minor *(Hoffmeister)*, Dvorak's Quartet in G Major, and Ruth Crawford Seeger's Quartet (1931). *4 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 484–3237.*

"Vivaldi's Ring of Mystery": Classical Kids/Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. Dennis Garnhum directs Toronto-area troupe Classical Kids' original one-hour family musical about Katerina, a young orphan girl sent to study music under Vivaldi in Venice, where she befriends a gondolier who leads her through the Island of the Dead and the wonders of Carnival in search of information about her past. The action is interspersed with excerpts from 24 Vivaldi works, performed live by the AASO. Preceded by a "string instrument petting zoo," where kids ages 3–8 can learn up close what instruments feel and sound like (2:30–3:30 p.m.). *4 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $12 (children, $5) in advance at the AASO office (527 E. Liberty, suite 208) and at the door. 994–4801.*

★"Town Meeting": Megiddo Peace Project. All invited to discuss local and regional social and political issues. Bring a dish to pass for a potluck; beverage & table service provided. Kids welcome. *6–11:30 p.m., Hathaway's Hideaway, 310 S. Ashley. Free. 668–2979.*

★Mass Meeting: Comic Opera Guild. All invited to learn about the various ways to participate in a May 19–22 production of *Naughty Marietta. 7 p.m., 2058 School of Music, 100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 973–3264.*

★"New Trends in Israeli Fiction": Beth Israel. Talk by U-M Near Eastern studies professor Shachar Pinsker. *7:45 p.m., Beth Israel, 2000 Washtenaw. Free. 665–9897.*

3rd Annual Michigan Tango Festival: Michigan Argentine Tango Club. See 22 Saturday. Tonight: "Una Milonga Mas," another dance party. 8 p.m. to the wee hours, Michigan Union Ballroom.

"Get Up Stand Up": Improv Inferno. See 2 Sunday. 8:30 p.m.

Matisyahu: The Blind Pig. Hasidic reggae with a dollop of hip-hop by this New York City quartet led by Matisyahu Miller, an acclaimed 24-year-old singer-songwriter who sings or raps in both English and Hebrew. *10 p.m.–2 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. First. Tickets $8 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all oth-*

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23 SUNDAY EVENTS *continued*

er Ticketmaster outlets, $10 at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.

FILMS

Dixboro United Methodist Church 6th Annual Film Festival. "What Is Truth? The Power of Myth." See 16 Sunday. Today: ***Whale Rider*** (Niki Caro, 2003), an acclaimed coming-of-age story about a Maori girl born to lead her people who has to overcome her culture's tradition of male leaders. Pop and popcorn available. FREE. 665–5632. DUMC, 5221 Church Rd. (off N. Dixboro Rd. just north of Plymouth Rd.), 6:30 p.m. **MTF. "Undertow"** (David Green, 2004). See 21 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

24 MONDAY

★**"Pandemic Influenza: Could History Repeat Itself?": U-M School of Public Health.** A day of talks on the recent emergence in humans of avian flu, flu immunization protocol, vaccine development, and other flu-related topics. Speakers include U-M, national, and international experts. *8:30 a.m.–4 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater. Free. 764–5425.*

★**"Introduction to Microsoft Word": Ann Arbor District Library.** *January 24 & 31.* A 2-part hands-on introduction to this popular word-processing program. *Note:* This program is also offered at the Northeast (January 18 & 25, 10 a.m.), Malletts Creek (January 19 & 26, 1 p.m.), and West (January 20 & 27, 10 a.m.) branches. *1 p.m., AADL training center, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free (AADL noncardholders, $10). Preregistration required. 327–8367.*

Eric Bibb: The Ark. African American singer-songwriter with a powerful, warm voice whose music is rooted in folk, blues, gospel, and soul. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $15 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

3rd Annual Michigan Tango Festival: Michigan Argentine Tango Club. See 22 Saturday. Today: "Die-Hard Practica," an informal dance. 9:45 p.m. to the wee hours, Pittsfield Grange.

FILMS

Hillel. "From Swastika to Jim Crow" (Merle Bertrand, 2000). Acclaimed, moving documentary about the lives of Jewish scholars who found refuge from Nazi Germany in historically black universities in the U.S. FREE. 769–0500. Angell Hall auditorium TBA. 7 p.m. **Michigan Theater Foundation "American Musicals."** See 10 Monday. Today: ***Cabin in the Sky*** (Vincente Minnelli, 1943) is a fantasy musical parable about faith, salvation, and loyalty in the African American experience. Ethel Waters, Eddie Anderson, Lena Horne, Louis Armstrong. $8.50 (children, students, veterans, & seniors, $6.25; members, $5.50). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, 7 p.m. **"Undertow"** (David Green, 2004). See 21 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

25 TUESDAY

★**"E-Mail Basics": Ann Arbor District Library.** *January 25 & 31 (different branch locations).* Hands-on introduction to advanced e-mail features, including an address book, options, and filters, sending an attachment, and more. *9 a.m., AADL Malletts Creek (Jan. 25) & Northeast (Jan. 31) branches. Free (AADL noncardholders, $10). Preregistration required. 327–8367.*

★**"The Rush to Misfortune: Portraits and Perspectives of Gold Rush California": U-M Detroit Observatory.** Talk by U-M Clements Library curator Barbara DeWolfe. All invited. *3 p.m., U-M Detroit Observatory, 1398 E. Ann at Observatory. Free. 763–2230.*

★**Carolyn Forche: U-M Hopwood Awards Ceremony.** A reading by this Detroit-born poet and George Mason University (Virginia) English professor highlights the annual ceremony recognizing the winners of the U-M's contest for graduate and undergraduate poetry, fiction, and nonfiction writing. Forche's poems range from nerve-racking portraits of the 80s political scene in El Salvador to semiabstract collages with haunted tones. Her works often depict nature in surprising ways: "Ash over conifers and birches, over berry thickets. Resembling snow and its/synonyms," "language that once sent ravens through firs." Margaret Atwood called Forche's poetry collection *A Country Between Us* "a poetry of courage and passion, which manages to be tender and achingly sensual and what is often called 'political' at the same time." Followed by awards presentations. *3:30 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 764–6296.*

★**"What Would Israelis Do for Peace?": U-M Hillel.** Screening of a film TBA, followed by group discussion. *7–9 p.m., Hillel, 1429 Hill. Free. 769–0500.*

★**"Raise a Happy Flower!": U-M Hillel.** All invited to plant a sunflower seed in a pot to take home, in honor of Tu B'Shevat, the Jewish "New Year of the Trees." Materials provided. *7–8 p.m., Hillel, 1429 Hill. Free. 769–0500.*

"Authentic Mexican Food": Whole Foods Market. Local chef Pat Wright whips up taquitos, salsa chicken, and other Mexican dishes. *7–8:30 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking and Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. $15. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

★**"Intergenerational Dialogue: Where Do We Go from Here?": 18th Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Symposium (U-M Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives).** See 6 Thursday. Today: a panel of community elders and student activists discuss their roles in the social and political affairs of their respective eras. *7–9 p.m., Michigan League Hussey Room. Free. 763–4652.*

★**"Albanian Literature and the Work of Ismail Kadare": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by writer and translator Robert Elsie, a specialist in Albanian culture whose books include *History of Albanian Literature* and *Anthology of Modern Albanian Poetry. 7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

Team USA: USA Hockey National Team. See 22 Saturday. Today: **Team USA Under-18 vs. Cleveland** of the North American Hockey League. 7 p.m.

★**"Facing Disgrace: Coetzee and the Israeli Intellectual?": U-M Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies.** Talk by Hebrew University of Jerusalem Hebrew literature professor Hannan Hever. *8 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater (3rd floor). Free. 764–0350.*

★**University Philharmonia Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** Andrew George leads this music student ensemble in Corigliano's *Gazebo Dances* and DeFalla's *Three-Cornered Hat Suite*. Also, a performance by a U-M concerto competition winner. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0583.*

★**Beth Patterson: The Ark "Take a Chance Tuesdays."** Highly regarded young singer-songwriter from Lafayette, Louisiana, whose music is a Cajun-Celtic fusion flavored with a wide range of other American and international influences. She sings in a voice that has been described as "simultaneously sharp, pure enough to cut glass, and inviting and sensuous as fire," and she's proficient on several instruments, accompanying herself most frequently on 8- and 10-string Irish bouzoukis. "Patterson weaves intricate lyrical tapestries that are abundant with imagery, multiplied by mysticism and drenched in symbolism. Whether it's themes of cathartic self-discovery or stream-of-consciousness channelings where not all is initially understood, her heady lyrics are often multilayered in meaning," says *Offbeat Magazine* critic Dan Willging in his review of Patterson's 2002 CD *Take Some Fire*. Part of a monthly series of free concerts featuring lesser-known artists on the roster of the prestigious local management agency Fleming & Associates. All encouraged to bring nonperishable food or money to donate to Food Gatherers. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free. 761–1451.*

"Tuesday Tickler": The Heidelberg Club Above. See 4 Tuesday. 10 p.m.–midnight.

FILMS

MTF. "Undertow" (David Green, 2004). See 21 Friday. Mich., times TBA. Other Michigan Theater films TBA.

26 WEDNESDAY

★**8th Annual Chevron Texaco-Sphinx Competition Honors Concert.** Three Junior Division musicians perform works TBA for over $100,000 in prizes, in this competition that supports young African American and Latino classical musicians. The musicians are accompanied by the Sphinx Symphony, an African American and Latino orchestra assembled from symphony orchestras around the country, conducted by Chicago Sinfonietta director Paul Freeman. *Noon, Rackham Auditorium. Free. (313) 877–9100.*

★**"Battle of the Jeepbots": Ypsilanti-Ann Arbor Area Robotics Club.** Club members demonstrate their Jeep Sumobots in the parking lot. Also, discussion of events for the coming year and an informal show-and-tell of current projects. *7 p.m., Corsa Instruments, 2370 Abbott (off Jackson Rd., behind KFC). Free. 332–1000.*

★**"New Year, New You: Do-It-Yourself Spa for Teens": Ann Arbor District Library.** All youth in grades 6–12 invited to make the ingredients for natural beauty treatments in your home kitchen. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School Rd. & Packard). Free. 327–4200.*

"Cooking with Mario, the Roman Chef": Whole Foods Market. Local chef Mario Corrado prepares

pasta and fagioli, porcini and smoked mozzarella crostini, and veal monterosa. *7–8 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking and Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. $15. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

Nickolas Ashford and Valerie Simpson: Washtenaw Community College Living Legends Interview & Concert Series. This popular 70s pop-R&B and soul singer-songwriter duo, earners of 22 gold and platinum records, perform some of their best-known hits to a house band led by Johnny Lawrence, including "Ain't Nothing like the Real Thing, Baby," "I'm Every Woman," "Ain't No Mountain High Enough," "Reach Out and Touch Somebody's Hand," and others. The program begins with an interview by music journalist Jas Obrecht. Audience Q&A. *7 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $30 in advance and at the door. 973–3450.*

★**"Light Sources and Other Factors for Growing Bonsai Indoors": Ann Arbor Bonsai Society.** Talk by a bonsai expert TBA. All invited. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free admission. 747–6493.*

Lahti Symphony Orchestra: University Musical Society. *See review, p. 75.* UMS debut of this Finnish symphony, conducted by Osmo Vanska, that is known for the vivid transparency of its overall sound, especially the precise ensemble work of its wind and string sections. A group of 30 leading Japanese music critics and journalists chose one of its concerts as the best 2003 classical performance in Japan, and the *Guardian* picked its recording of Sibelius's *Rondo of the Waves* as the best CD of 2003. The ensemble is joined tonight by the acclaimed Canadian pianist **Louis Lortie.** Program: interludes from Kokkonen's opera *The Last Temptations,* Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto no. 3, Prokofiev's Piano Concerto no. 1, and Sibelius's Symphony no. 2. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $10–$56 in advance at the Michigan League and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

"Norma and Wanda": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 20 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm Night": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 5 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

FILMS

18th Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Symposium (U-M Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives). "Ray" (Taylor Hackford, 2004). Biopic about the late R&B, blues, and soul legend Ray Charles. Jamie Foxx, Kerry Washington, Regina King. FREE. 763–4652. Michigan League Ballroom, 8:30–10:30 p.m. **"Blind Faith"** (Ernest Dickerson, 1999). Taut courtroom drama about a young black man arrested for the murder of a white youth, in a case that is not as it seems. FREE. 936–1384. Ann Arbor District Library multipurpose room (343 S. Fifth Ave. at William), 6–8:30 p.m. **MTF. "Undertow"** (David Green, 2004). See 21 Friday. Mich., times TBA. Other Michigan Theater films TBA.

27 THURSDAY

★**Book Lovers' Club: Washtenaw County Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled.** All invited to discuss ***Absolute Friends,*** John LeCarre's tale of an ex-radical who gets dragged into an evil underground, a tale that turns into an outraged statement against the marketing of the Iraq War. Also, ***Hope Dies Last,*** Studs Terkel's engrossing collection of oral histories about toughing through hard times. *Note:* All books available on tape at the library for visually challenged readers. Refreshments. *1–3 p.m., Washtenaw County Library conference room B, County Service Center, 4135 Washtenaw at Hogback. Free. 971–6059.*

★**"Listening to Terrorists": U-M Ford School of Public Policy Josh Rosenthal Education Fund Lecture.** Lecture by Harvard University Kennedy School of Government lecturer **Jessica Stern,** author of *Terror in the Name of God* and *The Ultimate Terrorists.* A former Council on Foreign Relations fellow, Stern is the country's foremost terrorism expert. Nicole Kidman's character in *The Peacemaker* was modeled on Stern. *3:30–5 p.m., Michigan League Vandenberg Room. Free. 764–3490.*

★**"Arthur Miller's America: Theater and Culture in a Time of Change": Shaman Drum Bookshop.** U-M English professor **Enoch Brater** is on hand to sign copies of this collection of essays he edited. *4 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★**Tori Arpad: U-M School of Art Penny Stamps Lecture Series.** Talk by this Florida International University ceramist. *5 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 764–0397.*

★**"These Values We Take to Heart: The King Legacy on Organizing": 18th Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Symposium (U-M Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives).** Talk by Second Baptist Church (Detroit) minister Kevin Turner. *6 p.m., Michigan League Hussey Room. Free. 476–7150.*

"Homegrown: Poems from the Ann Arbor Underground": Neutral Zone. Members of local performance poetry troupe **Wordworks** read selections of their work. "Last year, we packed the house," notes an organizer. *7 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater. Tickets $8 (students, $4) in advance, $10 (students, $5) at the door. 223–7443.*

★**"Lafayette Park, Detroit": Shaman Drum Bookshop.** University of Toronto landscape architecture program director **Charles Waldheim** reads from his book about this successful post-WW II urban renewal project and its relevance to the ongoing debate about the status of public housing in the contemporary city. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★**"Introduction to Flower Essences": Whole Foods Market.** Local herbalist Bronwen Gates discusses the liquid essences of flower petals and their "psychospiritual healing" properties. *7–9 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking and Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

★**"Using Herbs to Manage Mood": People's Food Co-op Herbal Wisdom Series.** Talk by local holistic health practitioner Linda Feldt. *7:30–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required. 994–4589.*

★**"Adventures in Mali, West Africa": Of Global Interest.** Local adventure tour company owner Heather O'Neal presents a multimedia slide show about Timbuktu and environs. *8 p.m., 120 Eighth St. Free. 369–3107.*

"Norma and Wanda": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 20 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Boston Marriage": Performance Network Professional Season. See 13 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Tom Mabe: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *January 27–29.* This comic from Louisville, Kentucky, first gained attention through *Revenge on the Telemarketers,* a CD containing some of the elaborate stories he had fabricated as pranks to exasperate phone solicitors. His stand-up routines include some stories about these antics, but he's mainly an observational humorist who draws his material from the oddities of everyday life. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Friday early show is a nonsmoking show. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $7 (Thurs.) & $10 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

Improv Inferno. See 6 Thursday. 8 & 10 p.m.

Performance Network Mosh Pit Theater. *January 27–30 & February 3–5.* Debut production (TBA) of the Performance Network's late-night "guerrilla theater" series of experimental and innovative plays. *11 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Tickets $10 in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. For reservations or to charge by phone, call 663–0681.*

FILMS

MTF. "Undertow" (David Green, 2004). See 21 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

28 FRIDAY

★**"No Use Actin' What You Ain't: The Play of Race at Chicago's Pekin Theater": U-M School of Music.** Talk by Northwestern University music professor Thomas Bauman. *4:30 p.m., Burton Memorial Tower room 506. Free. 764–0583.*

★**U-M Women's Swimming & Diving vs. Notre Dame.** *6 p.m., Canham Natatorium, Hoover at S. Division. Free. 764–0247.*

★**"Psychodynamic Social Work": Shaman Drum Bookshop.** WSU social work professor **Jerry Brandell** reads from his new guide to psychodynamic social work, using 35 case histories. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★**"The History of Islamic Art and Architecture": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by Henry Ford Community College art history professor Hashim Al-Tawil. In conjunction with Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads 2005 (see 12 Tuesday listing). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

28th Annual Ann Arbor Folk Festival: The Ark/U-M Office of Major Events. *January 28 & 29 (different programs).* A major highlight of the local musical year, with established and rising stars representing a wide spectrum of vernacular musical idioms. Tonight's headliner is the **Indigo Girls,** a popular duo from Decatur, Georgia, known for their lean vocal harmonies, at once sweet and pungent, and for their friendly, affecting musical blend of folk simplicity, country grit, and pop charm. Also appearing: The **Blind Boys of Alabama,** founded in the 1940s at Alabama's Talladega Institute for the Deaf and Blind, is still one of the most celebrated African American gospel singing groups, blending intense, straining vo-

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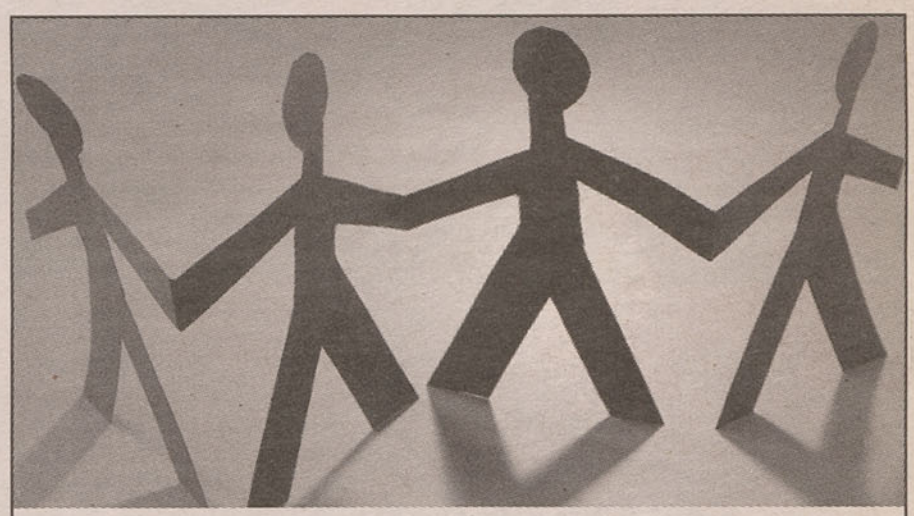

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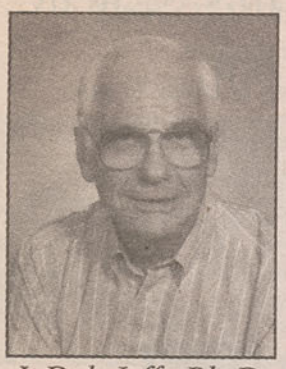

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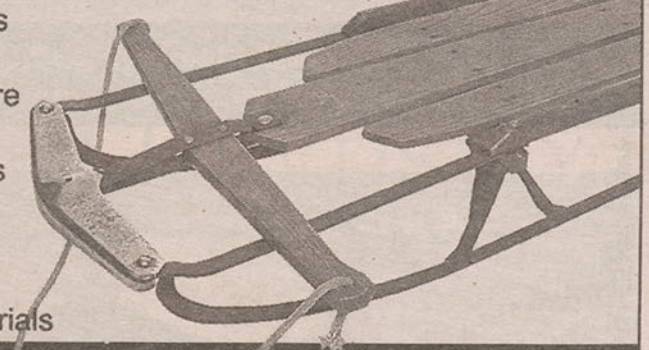

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28 FRIDAY EVENTS *continued*

cals with meltingly sweet harmonies. The **Glengarry Bhoys** is a Celtic group from the eastern edge of Ontario, where Highland Scots and French Canadian cultures have blended for nearly 2 centuries, and their original songs, sung in both English and French, draw on this mixed musical heritage. **Vienna Teng** is a San Francisco pop-rock singer-songwriter whose songs feature graceful melodies and evocative lyrics and range in style from spare, melancholy piano ballads to lush, multilayered musical landscapes. **Martyn Joseph** is a Welsh-born singer-songwriter and raconteur whose songs are at once intimately personal and politically charged. **Steppin' in It** is a Lansing string quartet that plays everything from bluegrass, country-folk, and country blues to Cajun, western swing, and calypso. **Jeremy Kittel,** a U-M music student with a constantly evolving musical bag of tricks, is a National Scottish Fiddle Champion and former member of the Saline Fiddlers Philharmonic whose repertoire includes traditional fiddle tunes and originals blending elements of classical, jazz, bluegrass, and other musical fiddle traditions. Emcee is **Susan Werner,** a talented young singer-songwriter known for a jazz-inspired, classically trained vocal style that she describes as "pop illiterate" and for her incisive, vividly imagined songs in a variety of moods. *7 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $30 & $45 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. Tickets for both shows ($80) available at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & other Ticketmaster outlets only. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

U-M Ice Hockey vs. NMU. *January 28 & 29. 7:30 p.m., Yost Ice Arena, 1016 S. State at McKinley. $12–$17. 764–0247.*

4th Friday Fling Advanced Contra Dance. Fast-paced, occasionally complex dances for experienced contra dancers. Minimal walk-throughs. Peter Baker calls to live music by musicians TBA. *8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $10. 665–8863.*

★**Faculty Trio: U-M Residential College.** A trio of RC music faculty—cellist Katri Ervamaa, percussionist Michael Gould, and trumpeter and electronic musician Mark Kirschenmann—perform originals and contemporary works TBA. *8 p.m., RC Auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 276–4906.*

★**Frigo Grausam Duo: EMU Music Department.** Recital by the duo of saxophonist Connie Frigo, an award-winning member of the New Century Saxophone Quartet, and pianist Rebecca Grausam. Program TBA. *8 p.m., EMU Alexander Bldg. Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

Imaginary Folk: Kerrytown Concert House. This New York City improvisational quartet mixes live and prerecorded music. Performers: trumpeter Peter Evans, violist Jessica Pavone, violinist Amie Weiss, and banjoist and electronics musician Brandon Seabrook. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15, $20, & $50 per night. Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"Annual Mozart Celebration": Chamber Music Ann Arbor. This ensemble of U-M music faculty, other accomplished local musicians, and guests performs an all-Mozart program. Violinists Catherine Cho and Todd Philips perform the Violin Concerto no. 3, and they are joined by violist Yizhak Schotten and a U-M music school ensemble for the Sinfonia Concertante for Violin and Viola. Cellist Suren Bagratuni and violist Elvis Chan perform String Quartet in C, violinist Ben Beilman and violist Elizabeth Beilman play the Duo in G Major for violin and viola, and pianist Logan Skelton and Natalia Kazaryan perform the Sonata for Four-Hand Piano in D Major. *8 p.m., U-M Museum of Art, 525 S. State at South University. Tickets $25 (students, $10) at the door only. 930–1960.*

"Norma and Wanda": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 20 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Boston Marriage": Performance Network Professional Season. See 13 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Improv Inferno. See 1 Saturday. 8 & 10 p.m.

Tom Mabe: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 27 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Performance Network Mosh Pit Theater. See 27 Thursday. 11 p.m.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Hotel Rwanda" (Terry George, 2004). *January 28–31.* The manager of a 4-star Rwandan hotel secretly turns it into a sanctuary for refugees fleeing ethnic cleansing. Based on the 1994 Hutu massacre of 800,000 Tutsis. Don Cheadle, Sophie Okonedo, Nick Nolte. $8.50 (children, students, veterans, & seniors, $6.25; members, $5.50). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA. Other Michigan Theater films TBA.

29 SATURDAY

★**"It's All Write: Short Story Writing Contest": Ann Arbor District Library.** All area middle and high school students invited to submit an original short story between today and March 26. Winners announced May 21 during the Ann Arbor Book Festival. $250, $150, and $100 cash prizes for top 3 winners in 3 age divisions: grades 6–8, grades 9 & 10, and grades 11 & 12. *9 a.m., AADL main library youth department or any of the 3 branches. Free. 327–8301.*

"Native Views: Influences of Modern Culture": Artrain USA. *January 29 & 30.* Three gallery cars house 71 contemporary artworks by Native American artists that highlight the merging of pop and contemporary cultural motifs with traditional Native American art techniques. Several computer stations offer interactive art programs. Artrain is the nation's only traveling art museum on a train. Also, in the NEW Center, sale and exhibit of works by 15 Native American artists, including one 13-year-old girl. *10 a.m.–5 p.m. (Jan. 29) & noon–5 p.m. (Jan. 30), NEW Center, 1100 N. Main. Free; donations encouraged. 747–8300.*

★**Shutta Crum: Nicola's Books.** This popular local children's writer signs copies of ***The Bravest of the Brave,*** her brand new picture book about a plucky skunk's long journey home. *Noon, Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 662–4110.*

★**"Mystery of the Missing Groundhog": Waterloo Recreation Area.** Waterloo Recreation Area park interpreter Kathy Kavanagh and other Waterloo staff present their original puppet show about a reporter's efforts to discover where the groundhog is hibernating. *2–3 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd., Chelsea. (Take I-94 west to exit 157, follow Pierce Rd. north to Bush Rd., and go west on Bush Rd. The Discovery Center is on the left.) Free. Preregistration required. $6 vehicle entry fee, unless you already have a state motor vehicle permit ($24 per year). 475–3170.*

★**"100 Things I Wish I Knew in My Baby's First Year": Barnes & Noble.** Lorri Gorna signs copies of this parental guide she cowrote. *2 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**"Let It Snow!": Whole Foods Market.** Local storyteller Rowena Conahan tells folktales, sings songs, and leads games and a craft activity for kids 4–8. *3–3:45 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking and Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

"Chinese New Year Celebration": Ann Arbor Chinese Center of Michigan. All invited to welcome the Year of the Rooster with children's performances of the traditional lion's dance, an umbrella dance, kung fu demonstrations, Chinese yo-yo stunts, a shadow puppet show, and stories, songs, and rhymes. Followed by a buffet dinner (6:30 p.m.). *4–8 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $12 (kids 5–12, $6; kids 4 & younger, free. 930–2162.*

28th Annual Ann Arbor Folk Festival: The Ark/U-M Office of Major Events. See 28 Friday. Tonight's headliner is **Keb' Mo',** a veteran L.A. singer-guitarist who plays original contemporary blues with a strong traditional feel, along with covers of Robert Johnson and other country blues classics. Keb' Mo' also played Robert Johnson in *Can't You Hear the Wind Howl,* a 1996 docudrama about Johnson's life. Also appearing: **Richard Thompson,** the former lead guitarist with the legendary English folk-rock group Fairport Convention, is one of England's most compelling and original singer-songwriters whose songs have won acclaim for their trenchant lyrics, alternately (and sometimes simultaneously) plangent and humorous, and for their adventurous, evocative blending of early rock 'n' roll with Scottish dance rhythms. Thompson is also one of the best rock guitarists around, and many of his fans come to his concerts just to hear his biting guitar solos. **The Krueger Brothers,** a trio featuring the Swiss brother duo of guitarist Uwe Krueger and banjoist Jens Krueger and New York City bassist Joel Landsberg, plays spirited renditions of traditional American folk and bluegrass spiced with classical-flavored improvisations. **David Jones** is one of England's foremost traditional singers, with a huge and varied repertoire of traditional ballads, sea songs, music hall pieces, and contemporary songs from both sides of the Atlantic. He sings a cappella or accompanying himself on guitar or concertina, and he likes to get the audience involved in boisterous call-and-response refrains. **Richard Shindell** burst onto the national scene in 1992 with *Sparrow's Point,* a widely acclaimed LP that included "Kentworth of My Dreams," a song Ramblin' Jack Elliott has called one of the best truck songs he's ever heard. Shindell's recent work reflects the influence of the music of Argentina, where he

currently lives. **King Wilkie,** a young bluegrass sextet from Charlottesville, Virginia, plays a repertoire that includes both classy originals and sublime old songs with the finesse of veterans and the abandon of kids taking the stage for the first time. **Lynn Miles** is a young Canadian singer-songwriter and acoustic guitarist who writes rootsy, emotionally intense pop-folk story songs. She sings in a voice that's been called "warm, plangent, and edgy in a very human way," and her best songs are known for their incisive poetry and emotional power. **Whit Hill and the Postcards** is a local quartet led by multitalented performance artist Hill (aka Whitley Setrakian), who writes richly imaginative country-folk originals that are often spiked with her offbeat sense of humor. The band recently released a highly regarded debut CD, *We Are Here*. **George Bedard & the Kingpins,** Ann Arbor's longtime unofficial house band, plays a range of honky-tonk dance tunes from swing to vintage blues, country, rockabilly, and early rock 'n' roll classics, with some memorable originals penned by guitar genius Bedard. With drummer Rich Dishman and bassist Randy Tessier. Emcee is **Susan Werner** (see 28 Friday Folk Festival listing). 6 p.m.

★Game Night: Washtenaw Rainbow Action Project. All invited to bring their favorite card or board game to play. *7–9 p.m., WRAP office, 325 Braun Ct. Free. 995–9867.*

5th Saturday Dance: 5th Saturday Productions. Kathy Anderson calls English (7 p.m.) and contra (8:30 p.m.) dances to music by Dr. Grangelove. No partner needed. Wear cool, casual clothes and flat, smooth-soled shoes for dancing. *7 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94), Saline. $10. 484–9964.*

Concert: The Neutral Zone. Performances by the local rap-metal band **Motown Rage,** and the Novi posthardcore funk band **Phoenix Radio,** and the Ypsilanti emo-rock band **No Biggie.** *7-11 p.m., The Neutral Zone, 637 S. Main. $5 (members, $3). 214–9995.*

"Cabaret Variety Show": Dreamland Theater. Naia Venturi, Misha Grey, and Kirk Kitchen present puppet shows and play interactive games, like asking audience members to characterize each other in terms of vegetables they resemble. Also, Kitchen reads his original short texts, and Grey performs music TBA and spoken word. *8 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross, Depot Town, Ypsilanti. $5. 657–2337.*

"Boston Marriage": Performance Network Professional Season. See 13 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Improv Inferno. See 1 Saturday. 8 & 10 p.m.

Tom Mabe: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 27 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Ellen Rowe Quartet: Kerrytown Concert House. This quartet led by U-M jazz piano professor Rowe celebrates the release of Rowe's new CD, *Denali Pass*, a musical tribute to her ascent of Mount McKinley in Denali National Park last summer. "My favorite bit is probably the title tune, as it encompasses the range of emotions that I encountered during this amazing climb," says Rowe. The other performers are saxophonist Andrew Bishop, a U-M music grad, and 2 local jazz veterans, bassist Kurt Krahnke and drummer Pete Siers. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $10, $15, & $25 (students, $5). Reservations suggested. 769–2999.*

"Norma and Wanda": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 20 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

Armenian Hye Hop: U-M Armenian Students Cultural Association. Benefit dance with live Armenian dance music by Mark Gavoor, John Harotian, Mike Mossoian, Ara Topouzian, and George Nigosian. Buffet dinner and cash bar. Proceeds benefit the Nuparashen (Armenia) Home for Handicapped Children. *8:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m., Polo Fields Country Club, 5200 Polo Fields Dr. $30 (students, $20) in advance or at the door. (248) 842–9640.*

Performance Network Mosh Pit Theater. See 27 Thursday. 11 p.m.

FILMS

MTF. "Hotel Rwanda" (Terry George, 2004). See 28 Friday. Mich., times TBA. Other Michigan Theater films TBA.

30 SUNDAY

★"Breakfast with the Rabbi": Chabad House. All invited to chat about kabbalah, Jewish mysticism, and other topics over breakfast with a Chabad House rabbi TBA. *10:30 a.m., Chabad House, 715 Hill. Free. 528–9526.*

★"Arabic Calligraphy": U-M Museum of Art. Award-winning Syrian calligrapher **Khaled al-Saa'i** discusses and demonstrates his art. Q&A. In conjunction with *The Art of the Written Word in the Middle East* (see Galleries). *2–4 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 764–UMMA.*

"Norma and Wanda": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 20 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Boston Marriage": Performance Network Professional Season. See 13 Thursday. 2 & 7 p.m.

★"Mastodons and the Ice Age": U-M Exhibit Museum/Ann Arbor District Library. See 15 Saturday. *3–4 p.m., Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. Preregistration required. 764–0478.*

★Michigan Chamber Players: U-M School of Music. This U-M faculty ensemble performs classical and contemporary works. Cellist Anthony Elliott and bassoonist Richard Beene perform Mozart's Duo for Bassoon and Cello. Violinist Andrew Jennings and clarinetist Deborah Chodacki perform renowned U-M composition professor Bright Sheng's *Tibetan Dance*. Jennings and pianist Katherine Collier perform Mendelssohn's Trio no. 2. *4 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0583.*

Audra McDonald: University Musical Society. This breathtakingly glamorous Juilliard-trained jazz singer scooped up 3 Tony Awards before age 28 for roles in *Carousel, Master Class*, and *Ragtime*. In concert, McDonald usually performs programs of favorites interspersed with lesser-known new works, delivered with polish and verve. She'll also likely sing some cuts from her new CD, *Happy Songs*. "It is telling that listeners embraced the unfamiliar songs as strongly as the familiar," a reviewer notes. She's accompanied by her jazz trio. *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $10–$44 in advance at the Michigan League and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

"Get Up Stand Up": Improv Inferno. See 2 Sunday. 8:30 p.m.

Performance Network Mosh Pit Theater. See 27 Thursday. 11 p.m.

FILMS

Dixboro United Methodist Church 6th Annual Film Festival. "What Is Truth? The Power of Myth." See 16 Sunday. Today: ***North Fork*** (Michael Polish, 2003), a haunting, moody tale about a town about to be drowned by a dam, that luxuriates in what the *New York Times* calls the "lyrical, wonder-cabinet mysticism of the movie's approach to the American past." FREE. 665–5632. DUMC, 5221 Church Rd. (off N. Dixboro Rd. just north of Plymouth Rd.), 6:30 p.m. **MTF. "Hotel Rwanda"** (Terry George, 2004). See 28 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

31 MONDAY

★Afternoon Book Group: Jewish Community Center. All invited to discuss Amin Maalouf's ***Leo Africanus.*** Written in the form of a memoir, *Leo Africanus* explores Islam and Christendom through the fictional adventures of a historical Arab traveler and geographer. (See 12 Wednesday listing). *1–2:30 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★"Einstein's Clocks, Poincare's Maps": U-M International Institute Science, Technology, & Society Program. Harvard University history of science and physics professor Peter Galison discusses his book about the emergence of the theory of relativity from the crossroads of technology, philosophy, and physics. *4–5:30 p.m., 1644 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 615–8482.*

★"Got Tape? Duct Tape Creations for Teens": Ann Arbor District Library. All youth in grades 6–12 invited to design and make a wallet, card holder, or other craft using duct tape. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–8301.*

★"Bearing Witness": 18th Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Symposium (U-M Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives). See 6 Thursday. The symposium closes today with this lecture by the acclaimed New York mystery writer **Walter Mosley.** *7–9 p.m., Michigan League Hussey Room. Free. 476–7150.*

★"Coming to America": Rabbi's Book Club (Temple Beth Emeth). All invited to join a discussion of ***The Jew Store,*** Stella Suberman's affectionate memoir of growing up in the only Jewish family in Concordia, Tennessee. *7:30–9 p.m., Temple Beth Emeth room TBA, 2309 Packard. Free. 665–4744.*

5th Monday Contra Dance. Carol Jacobs calls contras to live music by the Golden Griffon Stringtet. *7:30 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $7 (students, $5). (313) 871–6541.*

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation "American Musicals." See 10 Monday. Today: ***Easter Parade*** (Charles Waters, 1948) stars Fred Astaire and Judy Garland in a story about a Broadway dance team, with an Irving Berlin score. $8.50 (children, students, veterans, & seniors, $6.25; members, $5.50). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, 7 p.m. **"Hotel Rwanda"** (Terry George, 2004). See 28 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

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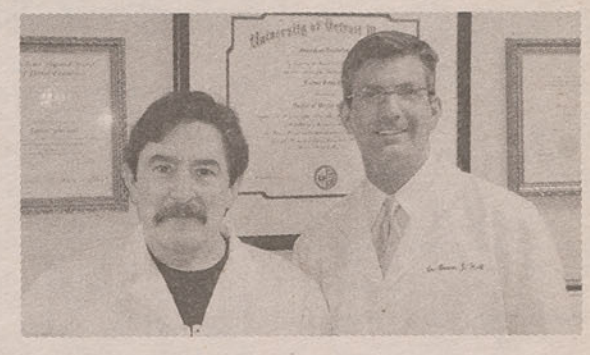

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MUSIC AT NIGHTSPOTS

by John Hinchey

These bookings come from information available at press time. Last-minute changes are always possible, so to be certain who's playing, it's advisable to call ahead. Unless otherwise noted, live music runs from 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

The Ark

316 S. Main **761–1451**

Michigan's leading showcase for American and international performers of all forms of traditional music. Cover, no dancing. All shows begin at 8 p.m. (Sun., 7:30 p.m.) unless otherwise noted. **Jan. 3 & 4: Marc Cohn.** Singer-songwriter. See Events. **Jan. 5: Open Stage.** All acoustic performers invited. The first 12 acts to sign up beginning at 7:30 p.m. get to perform. The most talented and popular Open Stage performers are offered their own evenings at the Ark. $3 (members & students, $2). **Jan. 6: Michigan Songwriters Festival.** Several area singer-songwriters sing original songs about Michigan. See Events. **Jan. 7: RFD Boys.** This popular local bluegrass band is joined by the **Saline Fiddlers.** See Events. **Jan. 8: Siegel-Schwall Band.** Chicago blues band. See Events. **Jan. 10: Johnny Lang.** Blues guitar prodigy from Fargo, North Dakota. See Events. **Jan. 12: James Armstrong.** Blues singer-songwriter and guitarist from California. See Events. **Jan. 13: Dennis Stroughmatt & Creole Swamp.** Illinois band that plays various kinds of Louisiana music from Cajun to swamp rock. **Jan. 14: Fonn Mor.** Celtic-rock band from Battle Creek. See Events. **Jan. 15: Charlie King.** Acclaimed contemporary topical songwriter. See Events. **Jan. 16: Eddie from Ohio.** Folk-rock acoustic quartet from Arlington, Virginia. See Events. **Jan. 18: Vinx.** "Primal, Neolithic, prehistoric pop" by this African American singer-songwriter and percussionist from Kansas City. See Events. **Jan. 19: Hem.** Acclaimed Americana pop band. See Events. **Jan. 20: Rachael Davis.** Singer-songwriter. See Events. **Jan. 21: "Old Time Tidal Wave."** With **The Mammals,** a Boston-based string trio that plays contemporary protest songs, and **Uncle Earl,** an acoustic folk-country trio led by former Ann Arborite K. C. Groves. See Events. **Jan. 22: Yiddishe Cup.** Cleveland klezmer dance band. See Events. **Jan. 24: Eric Bibb.** African American singer-songwriter. See Events. **Jan. 25: "Take a Chance Tuesday."** Acclaimed young Louisiana singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist **Beth Patterson.** FREE. See Events. **Jan. 28 & 29: Ann Arbor Folk Festival.** At Hill Auditorium. See Events.

cuban jazz

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Tumbao

A hot date

I'm not a seasoned listener to Cuban jazz. I have to say that up front, because my brother-in-law, Marc Taras, is the host of *Cuban Fantasy* on WEMU and writes about Cuban music with the skill of a devotee. In comparison, I simply don't have the knowledge to place local Cuban jazz ensemble Tumbao in its proper context.

What I can say with certainty is that a night out with Tumbao behind the microphones is a happenin' time. My husband and I saw them at Goodnite Gracie, where they play every first and third Friday, and we danced until we were sweating and sore. The dark room was buzzing with the young and hip in fancy duds, sipping martinis and cosmopolitans, while the sexy, sun-drenched tunes of this not-so-young but very hip band snaked through the room like cigar smoke. Few listeners were on the dance floor, but I just couldn't keep my body still with those Cuban rhythms calling to me.

Tumbao started performing live only in March 2003, but the word is out and the gigs are pouring in. Cuban jazz is a hot genre right now, and these musicians understand how to mix the polyrhythms of the island sound with lilting or complex jazz improvs that make this style easy for new listeners to access. With three members of the band writing original instrumentals, plus a rich history of Cuban classics to cover, Tumbao's repertoire ranges from slinky ballads to high-energy grooves without, well, missing a beat.

I found myself thinking how lucky we are to have professional musicians like these in the Ann Arbor area, who are not only dedicated to their art but also driven to entertain us, even if they'll never become rich and famous for doing so. Band leader Paul VornHagen has been around for years as a jazz performer and music teacher, has won three Detroit Music Awards, and demonstrates his skill with sax and flute lines that will sear into your skin or break your heart. Sven Anderson's piano solos float above the dense undercurrent with unexpected trills and turns, confirming the accomplished career he's had with such greats as Earl Klugh and Jimmy Scott. John Barron is also a veteran musician whose compositions on the group's CD, *Montuno Salad,* prove he's got more to offer than just a cool bass line.

The percussion section really gives this band its entertainment edge. Alberto Nacif, on congas, is the only member of Tumbao who is not a full-time music professional, and that's only because he's a physician in his off time. He was the original DJ for *Cuban Fantasy,* which he gave up in order to focus more on performing. He's incredibly cute on stage, with a big smile that says, "I'm having the time of my life." Add the talented, wildly rhythmic Javier M. Barrios on timbales to the percussion mix, and you can feel your hips start to shimmy. Just be prepared to sweat through your clothes.

Tumbao is at Goodnite Gracie on two Fridays, January 7 and 21, and at the Firefly Club on Friday, January 28.

—Stephanie Kadel-Taras

The Blind Pig

208 S. First St. **996–8555**

This local music club features live music 5 nights a week, with a varied assortment of local and out-of-town rock 'n' roll, blues, reggae, and dance bands, 10:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. Also, occasional early shows, 7–10 p.m. Karaoke on Mon.; closed most Sun. If there's an opening act, the headliner usually goes on stage between 11:30 p.m. and midnight. Cover (except "Showcase Night"), dancing. **Jan. 2: Madison Greene.** Acoustic rock band from Taylor. Opening acts are **Psalters,** a local rock band, and **Brian Blair,** a local singer-songwriter. **Jan. 4: James St. James.** Detroit rock band. Opening act is **Bad Faces Clan,** a local pop-rock quartet. **Jan. 5: Without Misty.** Local alternative rock band. Opening acts are the local rock band **Nico Blue,** the local power pop band **Polly Darkly,** and the local rock band **Anchorage. Jan. 6: Heads Will Roll,** Detroit rock band. Opening acts are the Chicago indie rock band **Rome for a Day,** the Detroit garage rock band **The Holy Fire,** and the local indie rock band **I, the Magician. Jan. 7: Hawthorne Heights.** Postpunk hard-rock quintet from Dayton. Opening acts are **Spitalfield, Number One Fan,** and **The Black Maria.** See Events. **Jan. 8: The Dirtbombs.** Detroit garage band. Opening acts are **The Paybacks** and **The Avatars.** See Events. **Jan. 11: "Showcase Night."** With 4 different young local bands. **Jan. 12: Pussy Pirates.** All-female local punk band. Opening act is **Wellness Plan,** a local punk band. **Jan. 13:** TBA. **Jan. 14: Throttlebody.** Talented Detroit band featuring former members of Solid Frog that plays inventive, heavy-hitting rock 'n' roll. Opening act is **The Dirty Americans,** a Detroit band whose heavy, guitar-driven rock 'n' roll has provoked comparisons to Helmet and the Rollins Band. **Jan. 15: Saturday Looks Good to Me.** Eclectic local pop-rock band. Opening act is **The Pizzazz.** See Events. **Jan. 18: "Showcase Night."** See above. **Jan. 19:** TBA. **Jan. 20: U-M Black Medical Association Party.** Student DJs spin hip-hop and R&B records. **Jan. 21: Amp Fiddler.** Funk-soul singer-songwriter and keyboardist. Opening act is **NoMo.** See Events. **Jan. 22: "Paisley Product 2005."** Prince tribute show with **Midwest Product** and **Dykehouse.** See Events. **Jan. 23: Matisyahu.** Hasidic reggae band led by this acclaimed singer-songwriter. See Events. **Jan. 25: Vespas.** Local indie rock band. Opening acts are **Lobby,** a local alternative rock band, and **In Civilian Clothing,** a local rock band. **Jan. 26:** TBA. **Jan. 27:** TBA. **Jan. 28: Overloaded.** Local alternative-rock band formerly known as Oblivion. Opening acts are the local female-fronted rock band **De Novo,** the local pop-rock band **Inner Recipe,** and the local alternative-rock band **Median. Jan. 29: Smokestack.** Bluesy, groove-oriented Ypsilanti quintet. Opening act is **Roadside Zoo,** a local funk-rock dance band. **Jan. 30: Washtenaw Community Jazz Orchestra.** Guitarist John E. Lawrence leads this popular big band. Opening act is the **Party Pizza Heroes,** a jazz quartet that orders pizza when it takes the stage and plays until the arrival of the pizza, which it shares with its audience. 8 p.m.–midnight.

Cafe Felix

204 S. Main **662–8650**

This downtown cafe features live music Fri., 9 p.m.–midnight. No cover, no dancing. **Every Fri.: The Underground Jazz Quartet.** This local jazz quartet plays a mix of standards, blues, contemporary pieces, and originals, with an emphasis on Hammond B-3 styles of the likes of Jimmy Smith, Larry Young, and Jack McDuff. Members are guitarist Tom Sinas, organist Duncan McMillian, alto saxophonist Dean Moore, and drummer Jordan Young.

Cavern Club

210 S. First St. **913–8890**

This downtown club, in the Celebration Cellars banquet space in the basement under the Millennium Club, features live music on Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover (includes admission to Millennium Club and Gotham City), dancing. Age 21 (men) and 19 (women) & older admitted. **Jan. 7** (6–9 p.m.)**: Jim Tate Band.** Versatile honky-tonk band led by singer-guitarist Tate, a longtime local favorite. The band's huge repertoire includes blues, country, rockabilly, rock 'n' roll, and R&B. The lineup of local veterans includes bassist Chris Goerke, drummer Mark Newbound, and guitarist Danny McIntire. **Jan. 7: Joce'lyn B & the Detroit Street Players.** Detroit blues band led by Joce'lyn B, a popular vocalist who's said to blend the voice of "Bessie Smith, the attitude of Mae West, and the mouth of Moms Mabley." **Jan. 8: Ultraviolet.** Detroit band that plays 80s & 90s rock hits. **Jan. 14: Thornetta Davis.** Soulful, rocking Detroit-style R&B by a band led by Davis, a powerful, Etta James–style vocalist. **Jan. 15: Killer Flamingos.** Rock 'n' roll covers and originals by this popular, veteran band from Wayne. **Jan. 21:** TBA. **Jan. 22: The Simpletons.** 80s pop-rock by this popular Detroit quartet. **Jan. 28:** (6–9 p.m.)**: Drivin' Sideways.** Veteran local band fueled by vocalist Pontiac Pete Ferguson's alternately soulful and ornery vocals. Their country-based repertoire still features lots of classic honky-tonk, but they also cover everything from early Chuck Berry to Sam & Dave to the Meters. The band's guiding presence seems to be Elvis—including both large chunks of his repertoire and his attitude that any music he did suited him just because he did it. The band also includes guitarist Jimmy Grant, bassist Chris Goerke, drummer Mark Newbound, and keyboardist Jim King. No cover. **Jan. 28: Starfarm.** 70s, 80s, 90s, and contemporary rock covers by this East Lansing quintet led by vocalist Andrea Bingham and singer-guitarist Dan Malnar. **Jan. 29: Killer Flamingos.** See above.

Circus Bar & Billiards

210 S. First St. **913–8890**

New bar on the 2nd floor of the building that houses the Cavern Club. Live music occasional Friday happy hours, 6–9 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Jan. 14 & 21: Jim Tate Trio.** A wide range of danceable American roots music, including classic and obscure country, rock 'n' roll, blues, and folk, by this veteran local trio led by vocalist Tate. With bassist Chris Goerke and guitarist Danny McIntire.

Club Above

215 N. Main **663–7758**

This dance club on the top floor of the Heidelberg Restaurant features a variety of live and recorded music Thurs.–Sun., 9:30 p.m.–2 a.m. unless otherwise noted. Also, comedy on Tues. (see Events), and karaoke on Wed., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover, dancing. Age 21 & older admitted unless otherwise noted. **Every Fri.: Latino Night.** DJ Xcess plays salsa, merengue, reggae, and other Latin dance records. Also, salsa lessons, 9–10 p.m. **Every Sun.: Mexican Night.** DJ Miguel. **Jan. 6: Techno Night.**

With A DJ TBA. **Jan. 8: Blend.** Novi rock band that plays originals and covers. Opening act TBA. **Jan. 13: Woodward.** Local modern rock band. Opening act TBA. **Jan. 15: Tally Hall.** Local band that plays arty pop. Opening act TBA. **Jan. 20:** TBA. **Jan. 22: Sparklemotion.** Local quintet that plays jazz, soul, and avant-funk originals. Opening act is **The Robyn Horlock Band,** a Detroit pop-rock band. **Jan. 27: Mobius Loop.** Lansing jam band. **Jan. 29: The Lawyer Band.**

Club Bedrocks

2900 Jackson Rd. **665–4444**

Lounge in the Best Western Suites. DJs on Fri. & Sat., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Every Fri.: "Mix & Mingle."** DJs spin old school, R&B, reggae, techno, and hip-hop dance records. **Every Sat.: Latino Night.** DJs play Latin dance music.

Conor O'Neill's

318 S. Main **665–2968**

Downtown Irish pub with live music Sun. (7:30–10 p.m.) and Tues. & Thurs. and occasional other nights (9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m.). **Every Sun.: Traditional Irish Session.** All invited to join or listen to an instrumental jam session. **Jan. 4: Rob Bugar.** Folk-rock singer-guitarist. **Jan. 5: Randy Brock Group.** Detroit blues band. **Jan. 6: Mossy Moran.** Traditional singer from Ireland. **Jan. 11: Busstop.** Smart, playful rock 'n' roll with a funky R&B edge by this local band fronted by Julia Ingalls whose repertoire ranges from vintage Stevie Wonder and Steely Dan to Sheryl Crow, along with some originals. **Jan. 12: Deron 5L.** Southern-flavored alternative rock by this Detroit band. **Jan. 13: The Hummingbirds.** See Portofino. **Jan. 18: S. G. Wood.** Rock 'n' roll covers and originals by this singer-guitarist. **Jan. 19: Mossy Moran.** See above. **Jan. 20: Busstop.** See above. **Jan. 25: John & Mike Bugar.** This local alternative-rock duo performs covers by everyone from Dave Matthews to Coldplay. **Jan. 26:** All musicians invited. Hosted by singer-guitarist **S. G. Wood. Jan. 27: Mark Reitenga.** Acoustic pop-rock covers by this singer-guitarist.

Crazy Wisdom Tea Room

114 S. Main **665–9468**

This tea room above Crazy Wisdom Bookstore features live music occasional Fri. & Sat., 8:30–10:30 p.m. **Jan. 7: John Latini.** Acoustic rock-based originals by this veteran local rock 'n' roll singer-songwriter. Opening act is **Chad Williams,** a local country-folk singer-songwriter. **Jan. 8:** TBA. **Jan. 14: Emily Bate.** Jazz-inflected pop-folk originals by this local singer-songwriter. Also, Crazy Wisdom's "2nd Annual All Covers Set," with local singer-songwriter **Gina Pensiero** and other performers TBA. **Jan. 15: "Four Women Sing."** In-the-round performances by local singer-songwriters **Annie Capps, Kitty Donohue, Whit Hill,** and **Jan Krist. Jan. 21: Dev Singh.** Blues, ballads, and soulful folk-styled originals by this local singer-songwriter who accompanies himself on guitar, Autoharp, mouthbow, dulcimer, and piano. **Jan. 22: Breathe Owl Breathe.** Richly textured acoustic folk-rock by this local duo. **Jan. 28: Lazy Sunday.** All-female folk trio. **Jan. 29: Lorelei.** A mix of pop, soul, and gospel tunes by this local vocal quartet. Members are Maggie McCabe, Tracy Kash, Jo Serrapere, and Daniel Gerics.

Creekside Grill and Bar

5827 Jackson Rd. **827–2737**

The intimate bar area of this restaurant in Scio Township features live music occasional Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m.–midnight. Cover, dancing. January schedule TBA.

The Earle

121 W. Washington **994–0211**

Restaurant with live jazz Mon.–Sat., 8–10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Mon.: Rick Burgess.** Solo pianist. **Every Tues.: Duncan McMillian.** Solo pianist. **Every Wed.: Rick Burgess.** Solo pianist. **Every Thurs.: Jake Reichbart.** Solo jazz guitarist. **Every Fri. & Sat.: Rick Burgess Trio.** Jazz ensemble featuring pianist Burgess, bassist Robert Warren, and a drummer TBA.

Elbow Room

6 S. Washington, Ypsilanti **483–6374**

This Ypsilanti tavern features live music and/or DJs Mon., Wed., Thurs., and occasional other weeknights, 9 p.m.–1 a.m., and Fri. & Sat., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Mon.: "House Night."** With DJ **Brian Roy. Every Wed.** (except January 19)**: DJ Chuck.** DJ who plays everything from garage and glam to punk and contemporary rock. **Jan. 1: Coltrane Motion.** Chicago noise pop band. Opening acts are **The Phage,** a pop-metal band, and other bands TBA. **Jan. 4: Gogglesphere.** Pop-rock band. Opening acts are the pop band **Word Play,** the indie rock band **The Javelins,** and the Detroit indie pop band **El Boxeo. Jan. 7: The Smuggling Plums.** Local alternative rock band. Opening acts are **Fink,** a punk rock band, and **9 Years Away,** a hardcore band. **Jan. 8: Jim Roll.** See Old Town. Opening acts are **Big Breakfast,** a Chicago alt-country band, and **The Twilight Kings,** a Detroit pop-rock band. **Jan. 13: Bear Mountain Picnic.** Pop-rock band. Opening acts are **E = MC Hammer,** an Andy Kaufman–influenced goofball rock trio from Wisconsin, and **The Gallows,** an alt-country band. **Jan. 14: Porno Jazz.** Lansing garage rock band. Opening acts are the old-school metal band **Mourning Sun,** the metal band **Culprit,** and the Detroit punk trio **Still at Large. Jan. 15: 25 Suaves.** Husband-and-wife noise-metal duo of guitarist Mr. Velocity Hopkins and drummer DJ Party Girl. Opening acts are the Ypsilanti punkabilly trio **Chapstik,** the Toledo goof-rock band **PB Army,** the Ohio rock 'n' roll quintet **The Highgears,** the Lansing stoner sludge band **Death Valley Dragline,** and **Devil to Pay,** a doomy hard-rock band from Indiana. **Jan. 19: Free Noise Project.** A blend of improvisational music and experimental noise by ensembles of randomly grouped local musicians. **Jan. 20: Ypsilanti Freighthouse Benefit.** With local bands TBA. **Jan. 21: Clear Days Always.** Side project of the Coldwater punk trio Spit for Athena. Opening acts are the Lansing rock band **Gaytar,** the pop-noise singer-songwriter **Safety Kit,** the Lansing punk band **The Boxcutters,** and the noise-metal band **Man at Arms. Jan. 22: Eleven Eleven.** Metal-emo band from Philadelphia. Opening acts are the pop-metal band **Trashpig,** the Nashville-based hard-rock band **Veryle Turnstyle,** and the Chicago hardcore band **Roundeye. Jan. 25: The Damn Bandits.** Local rock band. Opening acts are the **Gel Heads,** a rock band, and other bands TBA. **Jan. 27: Tribute Night.** An evening of songs by Nirvana and the Foo Fighters by several Ann Arbor and Detroit-area bands. **Jan. 28: Dear Maybe.** Emo band. Opening acts are the Detroit rock band **Sunday After,** the Lansing art-noise band **Potato Babies,** and Commerce, Michigan, rock 'n' roll quartet **The Satin Peaches. Jan. 29: The Great Lakes Myth Society.** Local folk-rock sextet, formerly known as the Original Brothers & Sisters of Love, whose music is an eclectic mix of Appalachian music, prog-rock, and sea shanties. Led by singer-songwriter-guitarists Tim and Jamie Monger, who also play accordion and mandolin, respectively. Opening acts TBA.

Espresso Royale Caffe

214 S. Main **668–1838**

The downtown location of this popular coffeehouse features live music on Sat., 9–11 p.m. **Jan. 8: Doug Wood.** Folk and jazz guitarist from Cleveland. **Jan. 15: Nick Strange Trio.** Popular local rock, blues, & reggae dance band. **Jan. 22: Just Jill.** Local acoustic folk-rock band fronted by 2 female vocalists. **Jan. 29: Kristy Hanson.** Local folk-rock singer-songwriter. She is accompanied by bassist Mike Chiaburu.

The Firefly Club

207 S. Ashley **665–9090**

Jazz and blues club that was recently named Best Metro Detroit Jazz Club by the *Detroit Free Press.* Live jazz Mon., occasional Tues., Wed., & Thurs., 8 p.m.–midnight; Fri. & Sat., 9 p.m.–1 a.m.; & Sun., 8:30 p.m.–12:30 a.m. Also, happy-hour music Sun., 5–8 p.m. Sun. jazz brunch, 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Cover (unless otherwise noted), dancing. **Every Fri.** (5:30–8 p.m.)**: Easy Street Swingtet.** Dixieland and swing by this local ensemble led by saxophonist and trumpeter Paul Klinger. **Every Sun.** (5–8 p.m.)**: Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings.** This local 10-piece big band is one of the few to specialize in the old-time big-band music of the late 20s and early 30s associated with Jelly Roll Morton and King Oliver. Arrangements by the renowned early-jazz pianist James Dapogny and tubaist Chris Smith. The rest of the lineup includes 3 saxophonists/clarinetists, 2 trumpeters, a trombonist, a guitarist/banjo player, and a drummer. **Every Mon.: Paul Keller Orchestra.** Award-winning 15-piece big band, formerly known as the Bird of Paradise Orchestra, led by bassist Keller and featuring vocalist (and Firefly Club owner) Susan Chastain. **Every Wed.: Paul Keller Ensemble.** High-energy mainstream jazz by this ensemble led by bassist Keller that features 3 horns. **Every Thurs.: Los Gatos.** Mambos and cha-chas by this local Latin jazz band that specializes in the music of Cal Tjader, the late San Francisco vibes player who ignited the

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Fresh Tomato Bruschetta	$6.50
Corn Dusted Calamari	$6.95
Cajun Chicken Quesadillas	$7.50
Artichoke Fritters	$6.95
Fresh Mussels	$7.95
Grilled Sesame Chicken Wings	$7.95
Smoked Trout & Sweet Potato Salad	$7.95
Polenta Fries	$6.95

SOUPS & SALADS

Cheddar & Ale Soup	bowl $4.25/cup $2.50
Soup of the Day	bowl $4.25/cup $2.50
Mixed Green Salad	$4.25
Caesar Salad	$4.75
Hearts of Romaine Salad	$5.25

ENTRÉE SALADS

Served with Brewhouse Bread. Add a cup of soup $1.50.

Chicken Couscous Salad	$9.50
Cherry Chicken Salad	$9.95
Blackened Salmon Caesar	$9.95
Chopped Salad	$9.95
Salad Nicoise	$10.95

DINNER ENTRÉES

Served with Brewhouse Bread. Add a cup of soup $1.50.

Baked Macaroni & Cheese	$11.95
Shiitake Chicken	$13.95
Baby Back Ribs ..... 1/2-$13.50 Full-$18.50	
Maple Pork Chops	$14.95
Potato Truffle Ravioli	$13.95
Pub Fish'N'Chips	$13.95
Pan-Roasted Salmon	$15.95
Sea Scallops with Cider Cream	$17.50
Grilled Hanger Steak	$14.95
Steak Frites	$17.95
Gorgonzola Tenderloin	$22.95
Hazelnut Chicken Fettuccine	$14.50

SANDWICHES

All sandwiches served with house-made turmeric pickles. Add pub fries, sweet potato fries or a cup of soup $1.50.

The Grizz Burger	$6.50
Wild Mushroom Burger	$6.50
Grilled Vegetable Dagwood	$6.25
Grilled Chicken Sandwich	$6.50
Smoked Turkey & Gouda	$6.50
Turkey Reuben	$6.50
Pub Reuben	$7.50
Chicken Cobb Sandwich	$6.95
Brewery Steak Sandwich	$8.50
Grilled Turkey & Tilsiter	$6.50
Ultimate Patty Melt	$7.50
Ginger Tuna Grill	$8.50

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Classico	$7.50
Spinach & Portobella	$6.95
Three Cheese	$7.50
Grilled Chicken	$7.50
Smoked Bacon	$6.95

LUNCH ENTRÉES

Served with Brewhouse Bread. Add a cup of soup $1.50.

Baked Macaroni & Cheese	$8.50
Potato Truffle Ravioli	$9.95
Pub Fish'N'Chips	$8.95
Shiitake Chicken	$8.95
Hazelnut Chicken Fettuccine	$9.95

DESSERTS

Grizzly's Root Beer Float	$3.50
Cherry Bread Pudding	$4.75
Lemon Crème Brulee	$4.50
Rustic Apple Pie	$5.50
Black & Tan Brownie	$4.95
Chocolate Truffle Cake	$5.95
Grizzly's Homebrewed Root Beer	$1.95

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50s mambo craze. Led by drummer Pete Siers, the group also includes vibes player Cary Kocher, bassist Kurt Krahnke, pianist Brian DiBlassio, and percussionist Jonathan Ovalle. Preceded by beginning (6:15 p.m.) and intermediate (7 p.m.) Latin dance lessons ($5 includes cover for the band). **Jan. 4: Ellen Rowe Trio.** Jazz ensemble led by pianist Rowe, a U-M music professor. **Jan. 7: Paul Keller Orchestra.** See above. Tonight the band celebrates its 16th birthday. **Jan. 8: Alberta Adams.** Veteran Detroit blues shouter. See Events. **Jan. 9: Sparklemotion.** See Club Above. **Jan. 11: "Kickin' Off the Year with Monk!"** With the local jazz ensemble **Jazzistry.** See Events. 7 & 9 p.m. **Jan. 14: Phil DeGreg Trio.** Jazz ensemble led by this Cincinnati pianist. See Events. **Jan. 15:** TBA. **Jan. 16: "Elevation."** Funk and hip-hop by DJ Graffiti and other DJs TBA. Also, an open mike session. **Jan. 18:** TBA. **Jan. 21:** TBA. **Jan. 22:** TBA. **Jan. 23: Susan Chastain Trio.** Jazz ensemble led by vocalist (and Firefly Club owner) Chastain. **Jan. 28: Tumbao.** See Goodnite Gracie. **Jan. 29: Organissimo.** Lansing jazz trio led by B-3 organist Jim Alfredson. **Jan. 30:** TBA.

Frenchie's Jazz Club

54 E. Cross St., Ypsilanti 483–5230

This Depot Town club affiliated with the adjacent Sidetrack Cafe features occasional live music, 9:30 p.m.–1 a.m. No cover, dancing. January schedule TBA.

Goodnite Gracie

301 W. Huron 623–2070

Martini and cigar bar connected to D'Amato's restaurant. Live jazz Wed.–Sat., 9:30 p.m.–1 a.m. **Every Tues.: "Deep-Chilled House & Techno."** With DJ R. Elliot. **Every Wed. & Thurs.: Laith Al-Saadi.** An eclectic mix of jazz, blues, R&B, Motown, and pop, including many originals, by a trio led by this local singer-guitarist. **Jan. 7: Tumbao.** *See review, p. 82.* Cuban jazz quintet led by local saxophonist and flutist Paul VornHagen and percussionist Alberto Nacif. With pianist Sven Anderson, bassist John Barron, and Javier Barrios on timbales. The band has released a debut CD, *Montuno Salad*. **Jan. 8: Al Hill Band.** Blues, R&B, soul, standards, originals, and obscurities by this local quartet led by Hill's wailing vocals and pumping piano. **Jan. 14: Andre Frappier.** Detroit jazz quartet led by this guitarist. **Jan. 15: Sparklemotion.** See Club Above. **Jan. 21: Tumbao.** See above. **Jan. 22: Odessa Harris.** This dynamic Detroit vocalist, who sings bluesy jazz in the style of Dinah Washington, is backed by a jazz trio. **Jan. 28: Dave Sharp Quartet.** Hard-bop, ballads, and straight-ahead jazz by this local quartet led by bassist Sharp. **Jan. 29: Terraplanes.** Local band led by singer-guitarist Jerry Mack that plays a mix of houserocking blues, uptown swing, soulful R&B, and roots rock. The band has a CD, *Well Tuned*. With guitarist Dave Fero, blues harpist and keyboardist Phil Ryski, saxophonist Willie Rankin, bassist Wendy Hayes, and drummer Lenny Gilpatrick.

Gotham City

210 S. First St. 913–8890

This downtown dance club, located above the Cavern Club and adjacent to the Millennium Club, features DJs on Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover (includes admission to Cavern and Millennium clubs), dancing. Age 21 (men) and 19 (women) & older admitted. **Every Fri. & Sat.: House Night.** With DJ J Smooth.

The Habitat Ultralounge

3050 Jackson Rd. 665–3636

Lounge at Weber's Inn. Solo piano (6–9 p.m.) by **Adam Riccinto** (Tues.–Fri.) and **Tom Knapp** (Sat. & Sun.). Dancing, no cover. **Every Mon.: "Monday Groove."** With DJ Miguel White. 7 p.m.–midnight. **Jan. 4–6: Slice:** East Lansing pop dance band. **Jan. 5–7: Soulstice.** College rock cover band from East Lansing. **Jan. 11–13: Al Hill & the Love Butlers.** Soulful swing, New Orleans–style funk, and boogie-woogie blues by this veteran local band led by Hill's wailing vocals and pumping piano. **Jan. 14 & 15: Karen Harris & K.G.B.** Popular Detroit Top 40 dance band with a flashily choreographed stage show. **Jan. 18–20: Almost Anonymous.** Top 40 dance band. **Jan. 21 & 22: Lady Sunshine & the X Band.** Local gospel-flavored blues band led by Lady Sunshine, a fiery, rich-voiced singer whose style is something of a cross between Aretha Franklin, Koko Taylor, and Denise LaSalle. **Jan. 25–29: Hot Ice.** 6-piece Detroit dance band that plays Motown covers.

Leonardo's

2101 Bonisteel Blvd. 764–7544

Performance area in the food court at the Pierpont Commons on the U-M North Campus. Dancing, no cover. **Jan. 5: Jazz Jam Session.** All jazz musicians invited. 8–10 p.m. **Jan. 13: "Sock Hop."** DJ plays 50s rock 'n' roll. Prizes for best 50s costume and best dance moves. 9 p.m.–midnight. **Jan. 14: "2nd Friday Swing Night."** With the **Johnstown Cats,** a local big band that plays classic and contemporary swing, with seasonings of blues and rock. Swing dance lessons (9–10 p.m.). 9 p.m.–midnight. **Jan. 21: "Salsa Night."** With a DJ TBA. 9 p.m.–midnight. **Jan. 27: "60s Shimmy Shake."** DJ plays British Invasion, Motown, and surfer rock. Prizes for "grooviest" costume and dance moves. 9 p.m.–midnight.

Millennium Club

210 S. First St. 913–8890

This downtown dance club, located above the Cavern Club and adjacent to the Gotham City club, features DJs Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover (includes admission to Cavern Club and Gotham City), dancing. Age 21 (men) and 19 (women) & older admitted. **Every Fri. & Sat.: Techno Nite.** With DJ Mad Maxx.

Mitch's Place

1301 South University 665–2650

This bar and grill features live music Tues. and frequent other nights, 10 p.m.–1:30 a.m. Cover, some dancing. **Every Tues.: Jerry Sprague.** Veteran local roots-rock singer-guitarist. Remainder of January schedule TBA.

The Necto

510 E. Liberty 994–5436

This popular local dance club features local and national DJs 4 nights a week, Mon., 10 p.m.–2 a.m., & Thurs.–Sat., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover (Thurs.–Sat. after 10 p.m. only), dancing. **Every Mon.: "Factory."** DJ Jinx spins industrial, goth, synth pop, and New Romantic records. **Every Thurs.: "College Night."** DJ Binzo spins Top 40 and hip-hop records. **Every Fri.: "Pride."** With DJ Timmy D spinning high-energy dance tunes in the main room and DJ Blur spinning pop, retro, and R&B in the downstairs Red Room. **Every Sat.** (except Jan. 1)**: "Frequency."** In the main room DJ Binzo plays Top 40 hip-hop and dance music, and in the red room DJ Marquee plays a variety of retro party music.

Northfield Roadhouse

50 E. North Territorial at Whitmore Lake Rd. 327–3693

This new tavern features live music Wed., 8–11 p.m.; Fri & Sat., 8 p.m.–12:30 a.m.; & Sun., 5:30–9:30 p.m. Also, acoustic blues singer-guitarists during happy hour on Fri., 5:30–8 p.m. **Every Sun.: The Nairobi Trio.** Blues band led by vocalist and blues harpist Chef Chris. **Every Wed.: Blues Jam.** Hosted by veteran singer-guitarist Michael Katon. All blues musicians invited. **Every Fri.** (5:30–8 p.m.)**: Michael Katon.** Blues and blues-rock by this veteran singer-guitarist. **Jan. 7: Doug Demming & the Jeweltones.** West Coast swing blues by this Detroit-area band led by singer-guitarist Demming. **Jan. 8: The Blues Owls.** Blues band led by singer-blues harpist Bob Beddard, a Dexter psychologist. **Jan. 14: Witch Doctors.** This local blues and R&B band led by singer-guitarist Thayrone, best known as the host of the nationally syndicated *Bone Conduction Music Show*, plays what Thayrone calls "way-strong mojo, ritualistic barroom blues healing." **Jan. 15: The Alligators.** R&B and blues band from Detroit. **Jan. 21: The BlueRays.** Local blues band led by guitarist Dave Kaftan and featuring vocalist Angel Tristin. **Jan. 22: Horse Cave Trio.** Blues-fueled rockabilly by this local trio led by veteran singer-bassist Ron Devore. **Jan. 28: The Nairobi Trio.** See above. **Jan. 29:** TBA.

Old Town

122 W. Liberty 662–9291

This downtown corner bar features live music Sun. and occasional other nights, 8–10 p.m. No dancing, no cover. The performers are usually accompanied by various drop-in friends. **Jan. 1: Chris Buhalis.** This local singer-songwriter performs songs by Hank Williams and Townes Van Zandt to mark the anniversary of their deaths. **Jan. 8: Whit & Al Hill.** Duo of multitalented performance artist

Popular bluegrass band the RFD Boys join the Saline Fiddlers at the Ark Jan. 6.

Whit Hill (aka Whitley Setrakian), who writes richly imaginative country-folk originals that are often spiked with her offbeat sense of humor, and her husband, Al Hill, a veteran R&B and blues keyboardist and guitarist who's also known for his soulful vocal style. **Jan. 15: The Hummingbirds.** See Portofino. **Jan. 16: Greg McIntosh & Eric Kelly.** Double bill. McIntosh, the guitarist in Great Lakes Myth Society, performs pop and folk-style originals and covers. Kelly is a local singer-songwriter who writes raw, Dylanesque folk-style songs. **Jan. 23: Jim Roll & Mike Ferrio.** Double bill. Roll is a nationally prominent local singer-songwriter known for his barbed alt-country-flavored folk-rock ballads and love songs. Ferrio is a New York City singer-songwriter known for his stirringly poetic lyrics and memorable melodic hooks who fronts the classy folk-rock band Tandy. **Jan. 30:** No music.

Oz

210 S. Fifth Ave. 222–4770

New nightclub located in the former Ann Arbor Theater. DJs or live music, Tues. & Wed., 8 p.m.–2 a.m.; Thurs.–Sat., 8 p.m.–4 a.m.; & occasional Sun., 6 p.m.–midnight. Cover (except Tues.) after 11 p.m., dancing. **Every Tues.: Jazz.** With live bands TBA. **Every Wed.: Hip-Hop & Reggae.** With DJs TBA. **Every Thurs.: Top 40 Night.** With DJs TBA. **Every Fri.: International Night.** Arabic, Indian, and hip-hop music with DJ Fares. Also, a belly dancing show at midnight. **Every Sat.: Hip-Hop and Old Skool.** With DJ Fares.

Oz's Music Environment

1920 Packard 662–8283

This storefront next to Oz's music store features live music most nights of the week, 7:30–9:30 p.m. (unless otherwise noted). Cover, no dancing. **Jan. 4: "Songwriters Open Stage."** All songwriters invited. Hosted by Jim Novak. **Jan. 11: "Anything Goes Open Stage."** All musicians invited. Hosted by Laura MacKimmie. **Jan. 18: "Acoustic Open Stage."** All acoustic musicians invited. Hosted by Dave Guimond. **Jan. 25: "Featured Songwriter Open Mike."** All songwriters invited. Featured performer is **Eric Moore,** who writes passionate white soul songs in the tradition of Van Morrison, Sting, and John Martyn. Hosted by Mickey Richard.

Portofino's

2550 W. Stadium 222–6066

This new coffee shop features live music Fri., 8–10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Jan. 7: The Pryde.** Local ensemble that plays an eclectic mix of classical, jazz, folk, rock, and bluegrass. **Jan. 14: Laurence Miller.** Quirky postpunk pop originals by this inventive veteran local singer-songwriter and guitarist. **Jan. 21: Primal Voices.** New local ensemble whose music blends elements of Native American and Mexican music, blues, folk, and biker boogie. **Jan. 28: The Hummingbirds.** Twang-filled acoustic country and American roots music by the local duo of singer-guitarists S. G. Wood and Rachel Hercula that won a Detroit Music Award as Best Country Band.

Rick's American Cafe

611 Church 996–2747

This campus-area club features DJs Mon. & Wed.–Sat., 10 p.m.–1:30 a.m. Large dance floor. Dancing, cover. **Every Mon. & Thurs.: "Jammin' DJs."** DJs TBA play dance music. **Every Wed.: "High Energy Dance Party."** With DJ John King. **Every Fri. & Sat.: Supermack.** Techno music with DJs from Supermack Productions.

Scorekeepers Sports Bar & Grill

310 Maynard 995–0100

DJs on Tues. & Thurs., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover, dancing. Age 21 & older admitted. **Every Tues.: Dance Music.** With DJs TBA. **Every Wed.: Blues Jam.** Hosted by the **Master Tones,** a local blues band. All blues musicians and vocalists invited. **Every Thurs.–Sat.: Dance Music.** With DJs TBA.

Studio 4

313 S. Fourth Ave. 302–3687

This dinner club features DJs Wed.–Sun., 9 p.m.–2 a.m., playing a wide variety of dance music. Cover (women admitted free on Fri. before 11 p.m.), dancing. Age 18 & older (Wed.) and 21 & older (Thurs.–Sun.) admitted. **Every Wed. & Thurs.:** DJs play dance music TBA. **Every Fri.: "International Dance Party."** With DJ C4. **Every Sat.: "Hip-Hop and House Night."** With DJ Jason "J Smooth" Doliveck. **Every Sun.: "Hip-Hop and Reggae Night."** With a DJ TBA.

Tap Room

201 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti 482–5320

This popular downtown Ypsilanti tavern is resuming its music programming on a very limited scale, with Monday open mikes, 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Every Mon.: Open Mike.** Hosted by The Martindales singer-guitarist Brian Brickley.

TC's Speakeasy

207 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti 483–4470

This downtown Ypsilanti tavern features a jam session on Mon., karaoke on Tues., DJs on Wed., open mike on Thurs., and DJs or dance bands on Fri. & Sat. (9:30 p.m.–2 a.m.). Dancing, no cover unless otherwise noted. **Every Sun.: Reggae.** Old and new reggae records with One Root Sound DJ Selector Joshua. **Every Mon.: Open Mike.** All musicians invited. Hosted by the local pop-folk jam band Citygoat. **Every Thurs.: Open Mike.** Hosted by Rootstand frontman Brant. All musicians invited. **Jan. 7: Ghettobillies.** Local acoustic guitar trio that specializes in sweet & gritty country-rock with glee club harmonies, a frat band lyrical sensibility, and occasional neopsychedelic yearnings. **Jan. 8: Boomerangs.** Local modern rock band. Opening act is **Cocktail Shake,** a New York Dolls–style retropunk band from Detroit. **Jan. 14: Dave Sharp Quartet.** See Goodnite Gracie. Opening act is the **Nick Strange Trio** (see Espresso Royale). **Jan. 21: Marty's Single Malt Reserve.** Local jam-oriented rock band featuring members of Rootstand. **Jan. 22: Deep Space Six.** Popular local Grateful Dead cover band. **Jan. 28: The Witch Doctors.** See Northfield Roadhouse. **Jan. 29: Paul's Big Radio.** Rootsy country-pop band led by local singer-songwriter Paul Lippens.

Touchdown Cafe

1220 South University 665–7777

This campus-area cafe features music Wed.–Fri., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover, dancing. January schedule TBA.

Underground

911 North University 763–4652

This all-ages club in the Michigan League basement features occasional live music. No cover (unless otherwise noted), dancing. **Jan. 21: Jiva.** Groove-oriented, melodic pop-rock with ethereal guitar textures by this Detroit band. Opening act TBA. $5 U-M students, free). 8 p.m.–midnight. ■

40 and counting. Backwards.

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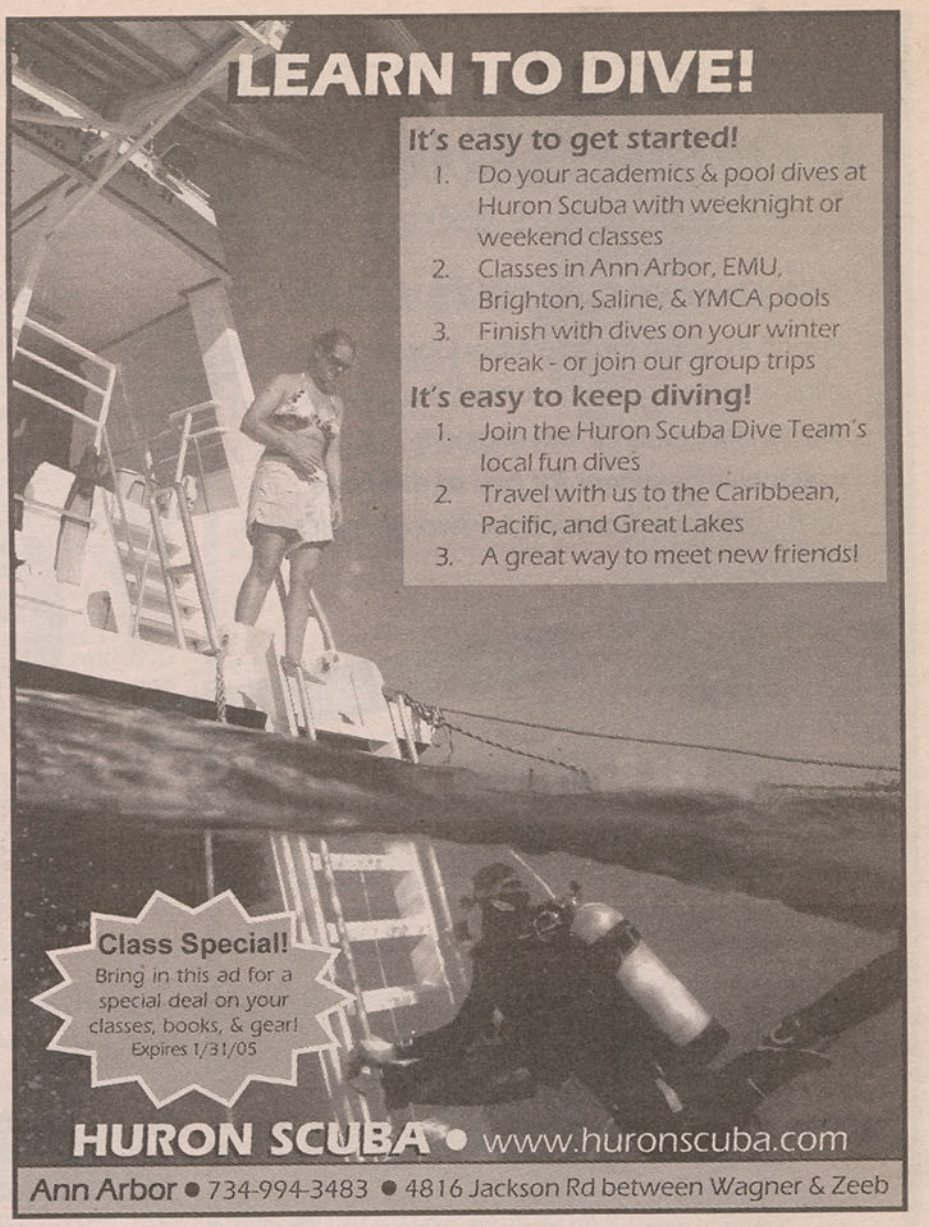
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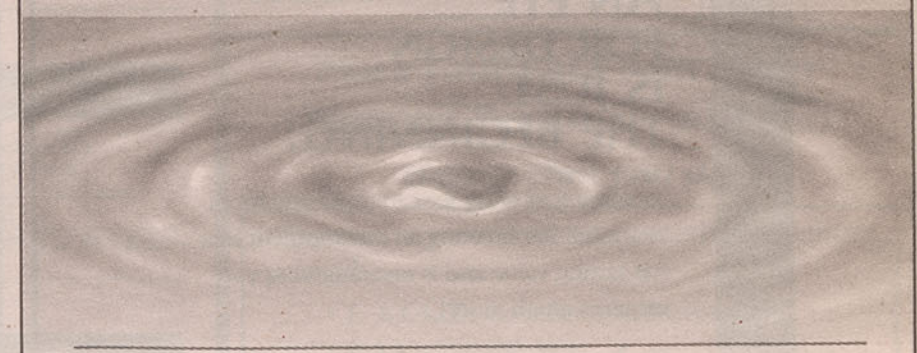
PERSONALS

Fill out the Classifieds and Personals form in the Ann Arbor Observer and mail it (address below) or fax it to 734-769-3375. We'll send you an instruction sheet and how to record your voice greeting and to retrieve your messages. Observer Personal Ads can also be submitted on www.arborweb.com. For further information on placing an ad call 734-769-3175. Call (900) 226-8978 to browse and/or respond to Personals ads by phone. (You must be 18 or older to call. Touchtone phone required. $1.95 per minute.)

ANN ARBOR OBSERVER · 201 CATHERINE · ANN ARBOR · MICHIGAN 48104

Now Enrolling for February!



The Ann Arbor Institute of Massage Therapy (AAIMT) is now accepting applications for our 12 month, 750 hour COMTA accredited massage therapy program.

Morning & Evening Classes

Flexible Tuition Payment Options

Open House: Jan. 16 & Feb. 6 from 10-12pm

Commitment to Excellence

Ann Arbor Institute of Massage Therapy

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Phone: *734.677.4430* Email: *info@aaimt.edu*
Please visit our website at *www.aaimt.edu*
Massage Store Now Open Saturdays 10-2pm

Congratulations!

PERSONALS "AD OF THE MONTH"

Personals ads in the Ann Arbor Observer are eligible for our monthly contest. The winner, chosen for creativity and originality, will receive certificates for ***dinner for two at the Earle and coffee and dessert for two at Espresso Royale Caffe.***

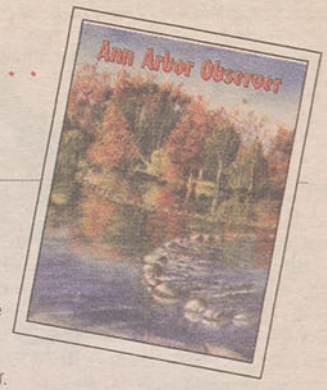
women seeking men

Let's chase the winter blues, play in the snow, and cuddle by the fire! Tall, pretty Pisces ISO energetic SWPM, 47–60, to warm my heart with his passion for life. ☎5405

the earle

ESPRESSO ROYALE CAFFE

Observer Advertisers . . .



SEE THE DIFFERENCE

quality

Since 1976, readers have turned to the Observer every month for in-depth features, fascinating profiles, up-to-date retail and business news, exceptional advertising opportunities, and an indispensable daily events calendar.

value

There is no better way to reach Ann Arbor. Delivered to 64,000 households served by the Ann Arbor post office and the Ann Arbor Public Schools, the Observer provides 100% market penetration.

. . . AND THE RESULTS!

effectiveness

Every advertiser in the Ann Arbor Observer receives long-lasting, repeated exposure with every single ad—88% of Observer readers read the ads throughout the month.

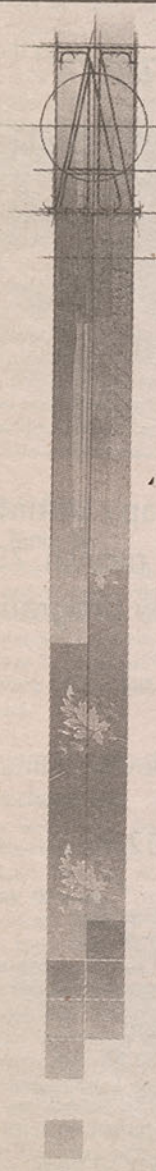
success

Our advertisers receive immediate response. Over and over, they testify that the Ann Arbor Observer is their most powerful advertising vehicle in Ann Arbor.

FEBRUARY ISSUE ADVERTISING DEADLINES

Space Reservation January 5 • Camera Ready: January 11

Contact the advertising department at (734) 769–3175 or danielle@aaobserver.com



AN EYE FOR DESIGN IS JUST THE BEGINNING.

A competent designer can make any room beautiful. But creating an environment that has lasting value and is meaningful to you requires much more…

We listen carefully to fully understand your practical and aesthetic needs, preferences, and the way you live in your home.

We help you discover your own style, then interpret that style with the finest materials to complement your home's architecture and unique character.

Peg Trimble, Allied Member ASID,
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Register now for Winter and Mid-Winter Cultural Arts Break Camps
Call 994-2300, x228 for information

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personals

Personals Key

A=Asian
B=Black
C=Christian
D=Divorced
F=Female
G=Gay
H=Hispanic
H/WP=Height & Weight Proportionate
ISO=In Search Of
J=Jewish
✍=Letters
LTR=Long Term Relationship
M=Male
ND=Nondrinker
NS=Nonsmoker
☎=Phone Calls
P=Professional
S=Single
W=White

women seeking men

The Classifieds deadline for the February issue is January 10.

PERSONAL CALL
(900) 226–8978
18 or older. Touch-Tone phone.
$1.95/min.

Let's chase the winter blues, play in the snow, and cuddle by the fire! Tall, pretty Pisces ISO energetic SWPM, 47–60, to warm my heart with his passion for life. ☎5405✍

Soft-spoken, semi-Bohemian, semi-suburban, statuesque brunette ISO reasonably successful, attractive man, light on baggage, heavy on accomplishments you're proud of. ☎5414✍

SWF, 45, petite, 112 lbs., blonde, teacher, musician, artist, loves animals, nature. Seeking compassionate, romantic, emotionally caring soulmate, NS, 45–55. ☎5412✍

Attractive, young-looking/acting, easy-going senior likes movies, music, travel. Communicative, humorous. ISO tall, NS WM with similar interests who likes laughter, loves life, kindness, and adventures. ☎5401✍

Active equestrian, found on rural roads or in woods/fields, ISO NS, ND, middle-aged man who enjoys outdoors, animals, and being silly sometimes. ☎5388✍

Warm **SWF,** 5'10", educated, positive, fun, NS. Likes movies, music, travel, dogs, outdoors, April through October, trivia, genealogy. Seeks similar, intellectual WM, 48–60. ☎5149✍

SWPF, 43, very attractive, athletic, bright, educated, single mom, warm, kind, caring, easy to talk to, great listener, good person with three terrific kids. ISO great guy, 35–50, with same qualities who likes kids and wants a mature LTR, not just a fling. Romance and time without kids will be important, too. ☎5359✍

SWF, 37, attractive, loving, caring, non-controlling. ISO dependable SM, 35–50, who enjoys life and sharing good times for friendship and possible LTR. ☎5244✍

SWCF. Not exactly how I pictured things. European beauty, 36, brown hair, green eyes, 5'7", 130. Seeking a man who is 6'+, fit, without dependents. ☎5250✍

Intelligent, creative, expressive **DWPF,** 38, seeks gentleman for exploring life and each other. I'm busy and successful, but am missing love in my life. Are you? ☎5413✍

men seeking women

The Classifieds deadline for the February issue is January 10.

PERSONAL CALL
(900) 226–8978
18 or older. Touch-Tone phone.
$1.95/min.

SWPM, 62, 6'3", 190, warm and good humored, seeks SF who is an optimistic communicator and is comfortable dressing up as well as wearing jeans and a baseball cap. ☎5411✍

Reflective, sensitive **SWM,** serious astrologer, 5'10", 53, ISO understanding, intuitive, kind, accepting Earth Mother, of any ethnicity, for a deep and profound LTR. ☎5393✍

Active and enlightened **SWPM,** 5'11", 49, seeks his artistic soulmate to start the new year. Tennis, creative writing, and movies are my passions. ☎5415✍

Start the New Year out right! This 40ish **SWM** is healthy, active, considerate, cute, and lots of fun. Are you 35–45 and desire quality companionship? ☎5416✍

Very romantic **WPM,** young-acting 61, 6'4", slim, Pisces, ISO intelligent, romantic, slim WF with strict morality, who is looking for love, happiness, possible LTR. ☎5417✍

Seeking fit, educated, realistic, optimistic, emotionally available SWF to share happy, healthy relationship. **SWPM,** 48, 5'8", with no dependents. ☎5406✍

Yeah, I know, your friends are making you do this, you never answer personal ads, you don't watch TV, you never go to bars, you hate the dating scene, you love to read and see foreign movies—**SWM,** trim, 43. ☎5389✍

SWM, NS, 42, 185 lbs., 5'11", good-looking, likes most movies, the outdoors, music, dancing, quiet time. Loves family. ISO SF with similar likes for LTR. ☎5408✍

SWM, physically fit, NS, intelligent, honest, accommodating. Enjoys books, movies, travel. ISO similar SWF, compatible, attractive, approximately 45–60. ☎2918✍

DWM, 53, 5'9", 150 lbs., no children, Ph.D. scientist/farmer in conservation/ecology. ISO woman scientist for rural life, international travel, romance. ☎4486✍

Educated, fit, **DWPM** loves dancing, the outdoors, the symphony. ISO thin, elegant woman, 39–47, who is positive on relationships. ☎3031✍

general personals

Want to meet GREAT single professionals? Go on EIGHT dates in ONE night! www.8MinuteDating.com.

ANN ARBOR JAYCEES
If you are a 21–40 year old looking to meet new people, give back to the community, build and improve leadership skills, and try new things, then the Ann Arbor Jaycees are for you! We offer something for everyone and we have fun doing it. Visit our website www.a2jaycees.org for our calendar of events or call (734) 913–9629.

ANN ARBOR SKI CLUB
You don't have to ski to be a member! The AASC is a "4 season" social and sports club for singles & couples 21/over from A2 and surrounding communities. Established organization averaging 500 members! Upcoming events: **1/6 General Meeting/Dance at Cobblestone Farm; 1/14 Night Out on the Town; 1/20 General Meeting/Dance at Cobblestone Farm; and 1/29 Late New Year's Eve Party. CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPCOMING X-COUNTRY AND DOWNHILL SKI TRIPS.** For more info on events, including sign-up procedures, consult the Club Hotline (734) 761–3419. www.a2skiclub.org.

FAKE AD CONTEST
Can you find the fake display ad in this issue of the Observer? If you can, you could win a $25 gift certificate from one of our advertisers. One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, January 10. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: Fake Ad, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, AA 48104. Fax: 769–4950; e-mail: penny@aaobserver.com (include address and phone number).

women seeking women

PERSONAL CALL
(900) 226–8978
18 or older. Touch-Tone phone.
$1.95/min.

The Classifieds deadline for the February issue is January 10.

men seeking men

PERSONAL CALL
(900) 226–8978
18 or older. Touch-Tone phone.
$1.95/min.

The Classifieds deadline for the February issue is January 10.

friendships

PERSONAL CALL
(900) 226–8978
18 or older. Touch-Tone phone.
$1.95/min.

The Classifieds deadline for the February issue is January 10.

It's Easy to Respond to a Personals Ad!

To Respond by Phone, Call 1·900·226·8978

Follow the simple directions and you will be able to hear more about the people whose ads interest you, or you can browse ads by category. With one call, you can leave as many messages as you like. You may call anytime, 24 hours a day. Voice greetings are valid only for the month they appear in print.

You must be 18 or older.
Touch-Tone phones only. $1.95 a minute.

Or to Respond by Phone Using a Credit Card, Call 1·888·718·4827

To Respond to a Personals Ad by Mail

Responses are forwarded for $3 per letter. Put each letter in its own envelope with the box number and sufficient first-class postage on the front. Do not put your return address on the individual envelopes. Mail all responses (in a larger envelope) to the Observer; include a check for $3 per response made payable to:

Ann Arbor Observer · 201 Catherine · Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Place your FREE Ann Arbor Observer Personals ad Today!

Here's what you do:

Choose the most convenient method to submit your ad . . .

- ***E-MAIL:*** classifieds@arborweb.com
- ***FAX:*** (734) 769–3375
- ***ON-LINE:*** www.arborweb.com
- ***MAIL OR WALK-IN:***

Ann Arbor Observer Personals
201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Send us the information . . .

- Your ad copy, 39 characters per line, typed or neatly printed.
- Your name, address, and daytime phone.
- Payment (by check, money order, or Visa/MasterCard).

The first 4 lines are FREE!

For singles who use the Personals Call voice-mail system, additional lines are $7 each. Ads that indicate a preference for letters, or those under the "General" heading, cost $7 per line for the entire ad.

Observer Personals Ads are also posted on
www.arborweb.com
Please call with any questions or comments:
(734) 769–3175

We reserve the right to reject, cancel, or modify any advertising and to determine the classification of individual ads.

Love is in the air!

Every Friday at 8:35 a.m. on WAAM 1600AM, listen for the Personals Ads of the Week from WAAM's Lucy Ann Lance and the Ann Arbor Observer's Melanie Ballance.

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Talk Radio 1600 WAAM

Ann Arbor Observer

classifieds

employment

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Ann Arbor Observer

Observer Guide Researchers

Conscientious, diligent, resourceful people with excellent English skills and journalism savvy needed for two full-time temporary positions at the Ann Arbor Observer as City Guide and Community Guide researchers. Must be available either May through July or June through August.

The job requires tremendous attention to detail, uncanny ability to track down information, suitable people skills, good writing skills, and a penchant for accuracy and thoroughness. Send resume and cover letter to: Michael Betzold, Guides Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor MI 48104. No e-mail applications or phone calls, please. Deadline for applications is Jan. 31.

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Call Meredith (828) 278–2128.

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I SPY CONTEST
Can you identify the glimpse of Ann Arbor in the photo on p. 103? If you can, you could win a copy of Jonathan Marwil's *A History of Ann Arbor.* One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, January 10. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, AA 48104. Fax: 769–4950; e-mail: penny@aaobserver.com (include address and phone number).

entertainment

The Classifieds deadline for the February issue is January 10.

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Quality Work at Reasonable Rates
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Elegant music featuring flute, violin, and cello. Call (734) 996–0303.

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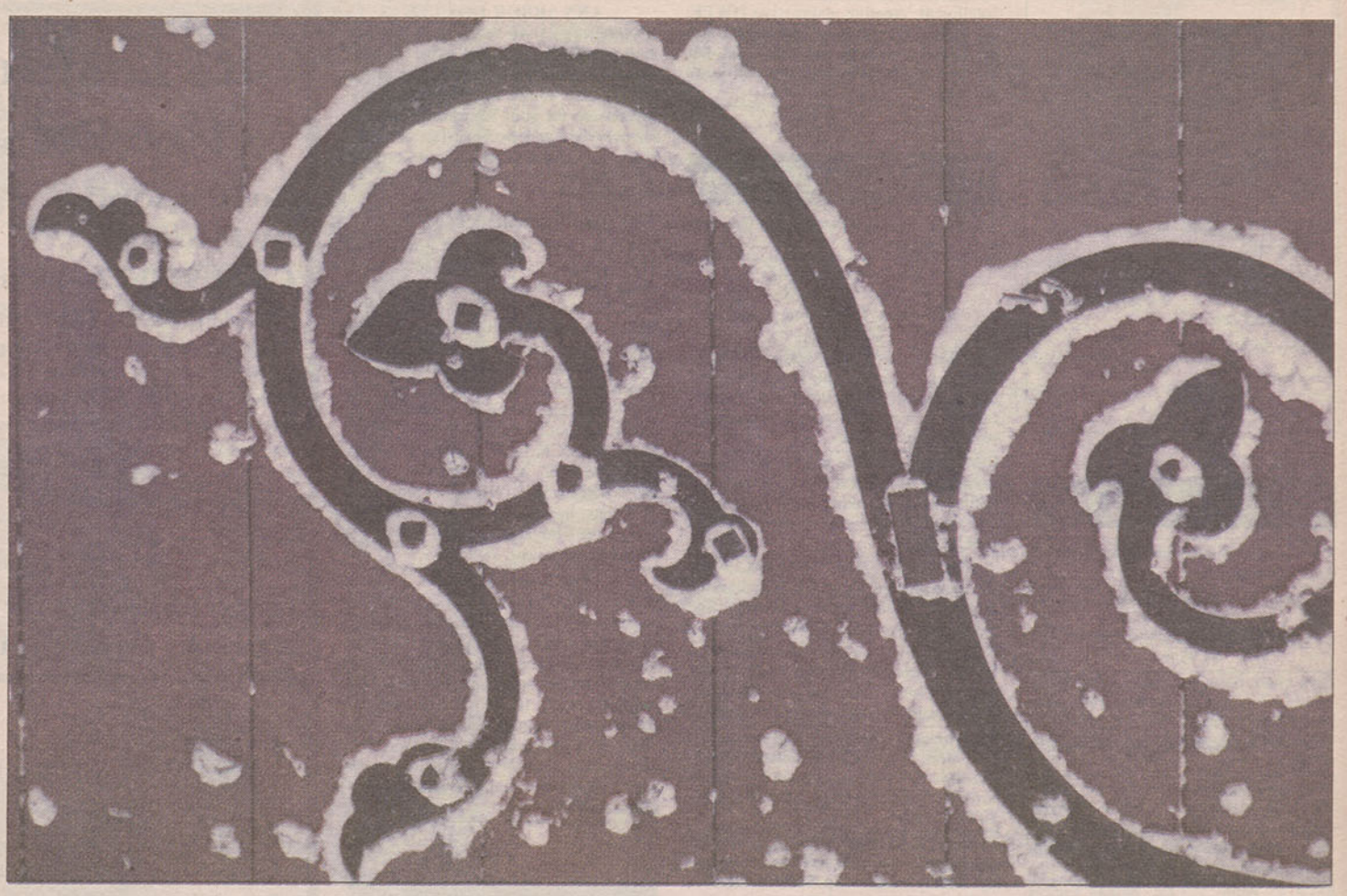
Strolling Mandolinist. Weddings, special occasions. (810) 231–6988



lessons & workshops

The Classifieds deadline for the February issue is January 10.

Flute Lessons: all levels. Former college instructor. (734) 429–1389.

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All Ages • All Levels Instruction
Gini Robison, (734) 487–2691.

★★ BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE ★★
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Rapid, all levels. **485–3842.**

You can sing!
Holistic voice lessons. Strengthen voice, gain confidence. All levels and styles welcome. Private and group lessons. Jesse Richards, N.A.T.S. (734) 995–2972, Information: www.JesseRichards.net.
Winter classes:
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Tues. 7–8:30 p.m. Starts 1/18. 8 weeks.
Level II Group Singing: $160
Sat. 10:30–noon. Starts 1/15. 8 weeks
Teen Singing (13–17 years): $150
Mon. 4–5:15 p.m. Starts 1/10. 10 weeks.

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Birth & Postpartum Doula Trainings & DONA Certification. Advanced Doula Training, Saturday 9–5, January 29.
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VOICE LESSONS for nonsingers and singers. All ages, levels, types of music and speaking. Focus is on personal expression and interests. Exceptional teacher, board certified music therapist, professional singer Kathy Moore, (734) 668–8146.

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SAX, FLUTE, CLARINET LESSONS
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Yoga. 6 Tues. eves. starting **January 11, Yoga I, 6–7:15. Yoga II, 7:30–9. Introductory Zen Meditation. 5 Thurs. eves., 6:15–8:30.** Starts **January 13. Sunday Services, 9:30 a.m. & 4 p.m. Zen Buddhist Temple,** 1214/1224 Packard (at Wells), Ann Arbor, MI 48104, (734) 761–6520. E-mail: a2buddha@provide.net.

Meditation series: concentration, relaxation, chanting techniques. Sundays, Jan. 16–Feb. 6, 6–8 p.m. Free. To register: 994–7114.

miscellaneous

The Classifieds deadline for the February issue is January 10.

services

The Classifieds deadline for the February issue is January 10.

Accurate Psychic/Channel/Medium: Personal and phone readings. Parties, events, gift certificates. Call Nanci Rose Gerler, Crystal Clear Expressions (734) 996–8799.

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ART AND ANTIQUE APPRAISALS
Insurance and estate tax valuations on your personal property by qualified appraiser. Please call:
Jan Hack, (734) 663–5310.

COMPUTER SUPPORT
Setup & support, home & small business.
Call Tom, (734) 929–0875 or 662–3537.

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DEPENDABLE SNOW REMOVAL
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health

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Therapeutic grade oils and supplements.
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Philosophical Counseling. Gain insight by mutual dialogue that uses reasons, alternative interpretations of life, and values. Specialize in personal or professional fulfillment, meaning, and purpose of life. Relationships, gender, or identity issues are welcome. Kate Mehuron. Ph.D., Depot Town Counseling Center, Ypsilanti. (734) 481–1200. www.appa.edu; kmehuron@yahoo.com.

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ERICKSONIAN HYPNOSIS
Life Coaching & Cognitive Therapy for: Thinness, happiness, and freedom from addiction. Metaphysical Guidance Center.
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Transformational results or money back!

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More Than Talk Therapy—Holistic approaches to anxiety, mood, hypnosis, EMDR, Reiki, Lucinda Orwoll, Ph.D., 945–3024.

Confidential therapy group for spouses/partners of substance abusing medical professionals. 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7 p.m. Info: Cecelia Hanchon, ACSW. 477–5820.

YOGA HOUSE: Anusara style classes. Yoga for Athletes, Yoga Happy Hour (drop-in restorative yoga). (734) 358–8546.

Stress reduction coaching for individuals and businesses. Learn to respond to life events with greater calm and clarity. Intentional Balance, LLC, Sandra Finkel. (734) 604–1857, smfinkel@umich.edu.

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Free assessment
Customized programs for all levels
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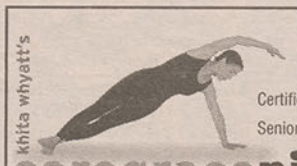

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2005 Guide	Tues., Aug. 2	Wed., Aug. 17	Wed., Aug. 24	Tues., Sept. 6
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Published by the Ann Arbor Observer

Real Estate GUIDE

Residential and Commercial Properties
in Washtenaw and Livingston Counties

Cover listing by:

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Ann Arbor Observer January 2005 Volume 12 Number 8

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Cover photo by J. Adrian Wylie

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January 8	NE Ann Arbor
January 15	Old West Side Ann Arbor
January 22	Downtown Condos
January 29	Pittsfield Twp. Condos

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COUNTRY LIVING – 6 minutes from Pfizer. Wonderfully updated, 4-bedroom, 2-bath, ranch-style home on 2 acres, wheelchair accessible. New hardwood floors, custom cherry cabinets, and more! $329,900. **Rick Jarzembowski, 645-3634 / 662-8600.** (SU2411565)

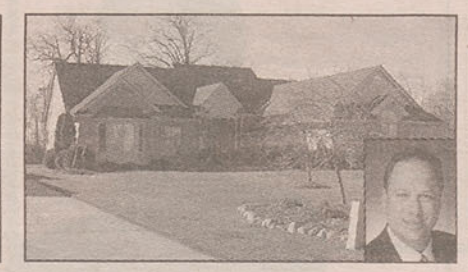
WWW.10261RIDGELINE.COM - Check out this website. Incredibly perfect! Saline school district, full brick exterior, 4 bedrooms, 4-car garage, and 1 acre. $549,900. **Barbara Gaines, 439-8405 / 662-8600.** (RI2402410)

VIRTUALLY NEW in exclusive Walnut Ridge. Lavish first floor master suite with cathedral ceiling, sitting area, bath with fireplace, jetted tub, and walk-in closet. Great room, family room and more. $929,900. **Barry Kenyon, 635-2000 / 662-8600.** (WH2411900)

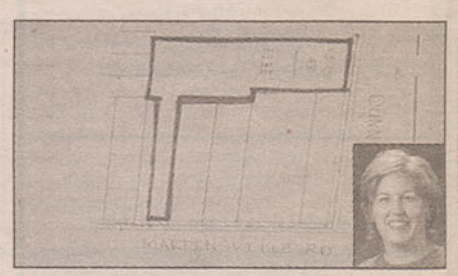
410 N. HURON, Huron River frontage! Built circa 1865 on over ½ acre. Walk to Depot Town. A fabulous home. $499,000. For photos, map & info., go to www.GregJohnsonRealEstate.com. **Greg Johnson, 646-5957 / 662-8600.** (HU2412497)

STONEBRIDGE GOLFING COMM. Overlooking the 12th green. Four-bedroom contemporary with first-floor master, 4½ baths, vaulted great room, granite counters, full finished lower level. $599,900. **John Romagnoli, 368-0300 / 662-8600.** (ST2407560)

STONEBRIDGE GOLFING COMM. Affordable ranch end-unit condo. Two-bedrooms, 3 baths, 2-car garage, first-floor laundry. Overlooking the 8th tee. Finished daylight lower level, sharp end unit. $314,900. **John Romagnoli, 368-0300 / 662-8600.** (LO2412394)



LOVELY L-SHAPED RANCH in the heart of Stonebridge Golfing Comm. overlooking the 6th green and woods. Open floor plan with huge great room and first-floor den. Full finished lower level. $569,900. **John Romagnoli, 368-0300 / 662-8600.** (ST2411334)



SPLITS available on 15-acre parcel in Sumpter Township, Belleville Schools. Property has frontage on Dunn Road and Martinsville Road. $195,000. **PJ Moffett, 645-6145 / 662-8600.** (DU2408934)

FABULOUS 3-BEDROOM HOUSE in great NE neighborhood with 3 parks within walking distance. Full, bright, open walkout basement. First-floor master bedroom. $304,900. **Sharon Beal, 395-7351 / 662-8600.** (CR2412378)

CHARMING 1928 BUNGALOW. Walk to Depot town. Three bedrooms. Great original woodwork and wood floors. Large dining room and living room. Separate tub and shower in bath. $179,900. **Sharon Beal, 395-7351 / 662-8600.** (MI2410114)

UNDER CONSTRUCTION by Pace Building. Four bedrooms, 4½ baths, 3,000 sq. ft., hardwood floors through kitchen, nook, foyer, and formal dining room. Main-floor master suite, gourmet kitchen, and more. $549,900. **Sue Wright, 320-1243 / 426-1487.** (2408720)

30 ACRES. New pole barn, 4-car insulated garage and existing barn. Includes move-in condition 2,800 sq. ft. house with 5 bedrooms, 2 baths, family room, and dining room. $399,000. **PJ Moffett, 645-6145 / 662-8600.** (DA2407597)

CLASS AND BEAUTY inside and out! This stately 4-bedroom and its all-new 3½ baths are within walking distance to the Arb, Gallup Park, U of M, and downtown. New kitchen, upscale appliances and more. $675,000. **Jan Bednar, 645-9562 / 662-8600.** (GE2408926)

MOVE RIGHT IN! Three-bedroom ranch with updated kitchen with tile floor. Hardwood floors in living room and bedrooms. Oversized garage and across from a park. Tour it today. $162,900. **Tonya Ireland, 395-1805 / 662-8600.** (SH2412575)

LAKE FOREST HIGHLANDS in Pittsfield. Updated 1½-story contemporary. Best price in the area. Added bonus full basement with full bath and small kitchen. Bedroom and study with Internet connections. $325,000. **Garrett Dowker, 730-4321 / 662-8600.** (VA2412608)

SPARKLING CLEAN with cathedral ceiling, skylight, three bedrooms, two baths, full basement, garage, and huge deck in popular Dexter Crossing sub near Village and minutes to AA. $244,900. **Gail Sinelli, 320-0828 / 662-8600.** (CA2410677)

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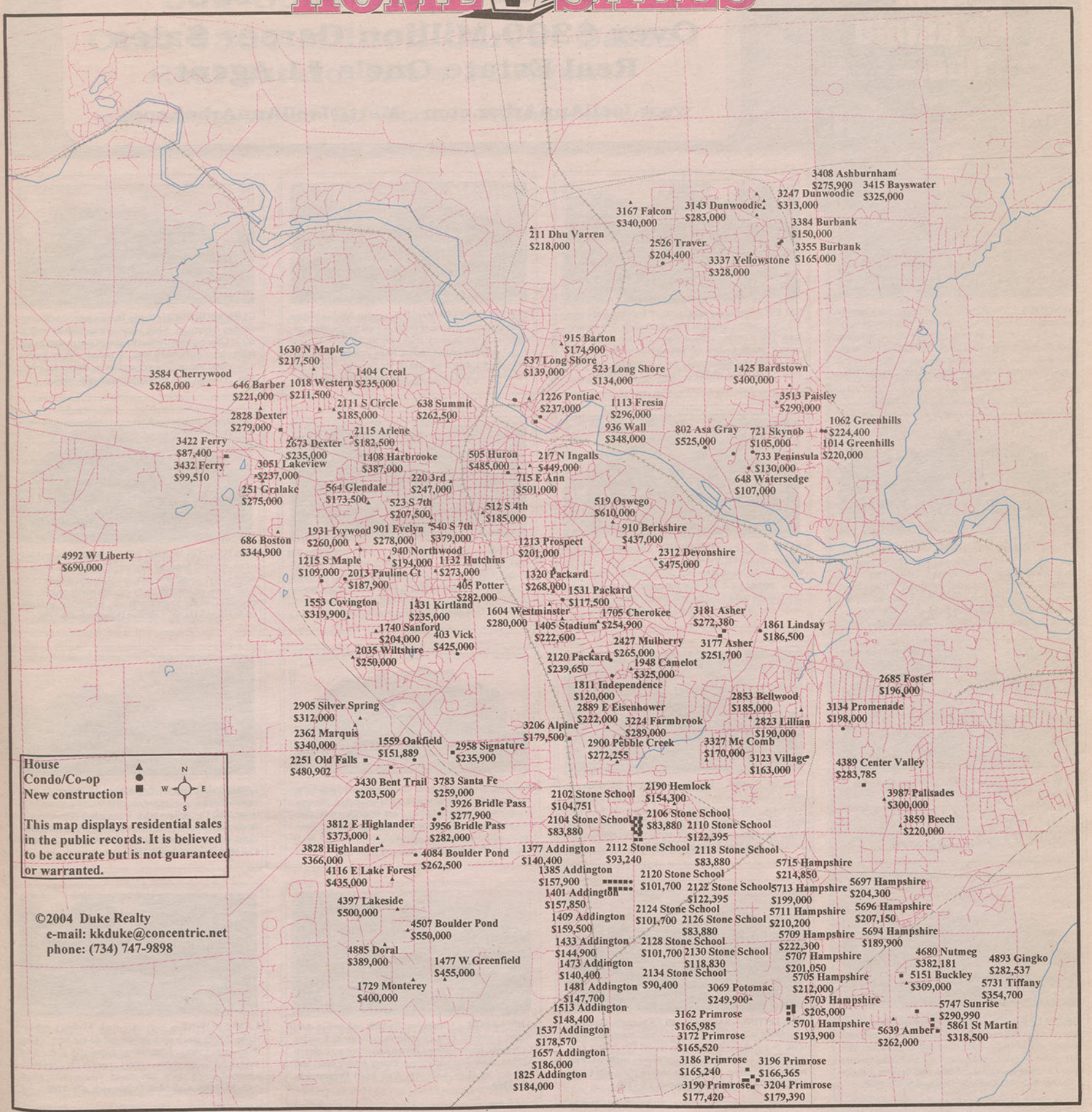
NOVEMBER 2004

HOME SALES



Textbooks say the market value of a home is whatever price a ready, willing, and able purchaser will pay. But Habitat for Humanity and Community Housing Alternatives are rewriting the book and selling homes for half their market price. Fifteen sales on this month's map demonstrate the big impact of these organizations and their many supporters.

Both sales on Ferry Street on the city's far west side are Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley's babies. 3422 Ferry is a three-bedroom, one-bath floor plan with 1,200 square feet of living space, while 3432 Ferry fits a fourth bedroom into 1,175 square feet. They sold for $87,400 and $99,510, respectively. Both single-family homes occupy 50-by-120-foot lots. Habitat cuts costs by using the purchasers' sweat equity plus an army of volunteers to build the homes. It then leverages donations to offer the buyers no-interest, twenty-five-year mortgages, according to Andra Bostian Ferguson, Habitat's development director.

Thirteen sales off Stone School Road on the city's south side are the work of Ypsilanti-based Community Housing Alternatives. We spoke with two owners who bought three-bedroom, two-bath floor plans with over 1,400 square feet of living space. Iva O'Neal paid just $83,880 for hers. "It took a long time," she says, recalling thirteen months spent waiting for construction. But O'Neal says she is "totally happy" with the result. O'Neal's neighbor also is delighted. A first-time home owner who asked us not to use her name, she paid $101,700 for her unit. "They were all very nice people to work with," she exclaims, "including TCF [which provided the financing]. I am very happy!"

To help keep the Stone School units affordable for future buyers, there's a cap on the price at which they can be resold. Neither home owner we talked to was put off by that.

—Kevin Duke

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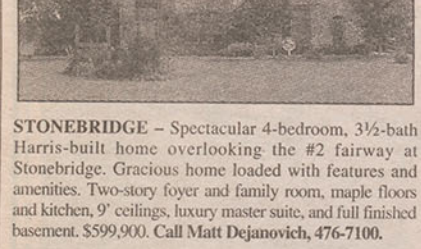
NEWPORT CREEK – Harris Homes presents another spectacular offering in Ann Arbor's premier custom home community. Gorgeous lot backing to wooded common area. Striking home design with ample use of brick and stone. Custom kitchen, granite counter tops, and all the extras you would expect. $997,719. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Spectacular estate property featuring 5-bedroom, 3½-bath custom-built southern colonial on 4½ stunning acres. This is one of the finest homes available with all brick exterior, granite kitchen, extensive hardwood floor and custom moldings, 6-car garage, and every detail you would expect. $997,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

TRAVIS POINTE - Incredible custom-designed home under construction in one of the area's most sought-after communities. Contemporary lines with all the features you'd expect including custom kitchen, raised ceilings, lots of windows, huge master suite, and all the high-end finishes you would expect. $850,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

GLENNBOROUGH. Harris Homes presents this outstanding 4-bedroom, 3-bath home on a spectacular walkout site in Glennborough. Perfect traditional design with 2-story foyer, den, family room with 11' ceiling, custom kitchen with granite and professional appliances, and dream master suite. $800,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476–7100.**



STONEBRIDGE – Spectacular 4-bedroom, 3½-bath Harris-built home overlooking the #2 fairway at Stonebridge. Gracious home loaded with features and amenities. Two-story foyer and family room, maple floors and kitchen, 9' ceilings, luxury master suite, and full finished basement. $599,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – STONEBRIDGE – Fabulous custom-built home on one of the best sites in Stonebridge. Enjoy gorgeous nature and golf course views from the ample decks and windows of this stunning home. Incredible features throughout with 2-story family room, custom kitchen with granite counters, and luxury master suite. $590,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich 476-7100.**

SALINE – Incredible secluded estate-type property backing to the Saline River. Gracious colonial design loaded with custom features and amenities. Two-story foyer, 9' first-floor ceilings, oversized family room, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement. $559,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

HUNTINGTON WOODS – This is another quality 4-bedroom, 3½-bath home by Bayberry Construction in one of Saline's most desired new subs. Incredible plan with two-story family room, kitchen with cherry cabinets, granite counters, and eleven-foot ceilings, luxury master suite, 3-car garage, and walk-out basement. $534,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – NE ANN ARBOR. Gracious 4-bedroom, 2½-bath colonial on a peaceful acre lot in King Elementary. Wonderful updates featuring beautiful maple kitchen with Stilstone counters and stainless steel appliances, Pergo floors, and gorgeous décor. $479,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich 476-7100.**

WALSH FARMS – Incredible offering by JR Schultz in one of Dexter's most desired subs. This 4-bedroom, 3½-bath home is the first offering in a new section of the neighborhood and features a gorgeous 1.5-acre site, cherry kitchen, granite island, sun room, and first-floor master suite. $475,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Fabulous new 4-bedroom, 3½-bath home by Bayberry Construction in Huntington Woods. Incredible package of features and amenities with cherry cabinets, granite counters, 9' ceilings, walkout basement, and 3-car garage. Wow. $474,144. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

LOHR LAKE VILLAGE – Stunning 4-bedroom, 2½-bath custom-built home on one of the most beautiful wooded lots in the area. This striking home features two-story entry and family room, remodeled kitchen with cherry floor and granite island, den, luxury master suite, and 3-car garage. $449,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

GRASS LAKE – Eye-catching 4-bedroom, 3½-bath, 2-year-old ranch in Sandhill Estates. This home is loaded with features and amenities. Great room with huge picture window, stone fireplace, custom-built oak bookcases, custom maple kitchen, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement. $429,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – SAGINAW HILLS Incredible opportunity available with this 3-bedroom, 2½-bath transitional-styled home on a gorgeous 2.8-acre lot in one of Ann Arbor's most desired subs. Unique interior design features oversized living with vaulted ceiling, family room with fireplace, and master loft. $399,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich 476-7100.**

ANN ARBOR – 3-bedroom, 2½-bath end unit in Ann Arbor's newest urban condo development Kessler Commons. Enjoy striking design and décor with cherry kitchen, 2-car attached garage, luxury master suite, and flex-use 3rd floor. $384,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

LANDSDOWNE – Very rare find. All brick 3-bedroom, 2-bath ranch on a private cul-de-sac lot walking distance to Lawton Elementary. Wonderful home with oversized living room, family room with fireplace, screened porch, study, and master suite with attached bath. $379,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ANN ARBOR – One of six brand-new 3-bedroom, 2½-bath condos in Kessler Commons. Enjoy wonderful urban living walking distance to UM Hospital, central campus, and downtown. Superior design and features with attached 2-car garage, custom kitchens, designer décor, luxury master suite, and flex-use 3rd floor. $339,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

GRASS LAKE – Incredible 3-bedroom, 2-bath ranch on a peaceful lot in Sandhill Estates. Beautiful interior décor highlights this very nice home. Features include great room with vaulted ceiling, custom kitchen with maple cabinets, luxury master suite, 3-car garage, and walkout basement. $299,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – GRASS LAKE – Another fabulous 4-bedroom, 2H-bath colonial by Harris Homes in Sandhill Estates. This quality home is just what you've been looking for with 3-car garage, walkout basement, large family room, and kitchen with hardwood floors. $296,363. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

LINCOLN SCHOOLS – Newly-built 4-bedroom, 2½-bath home in Lincoln Pines. Great-room-style house with vaulted ceilings, first-floor master suite, and view out basement. Wonderful features including oak flooring, 9' ceilings, and top-quality construction. $279,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

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TIMS LAKE – Stunning "Architectural Digest" home located on one of the most beautiful lots you will find. Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired design with the highest level of quality, design, and materials. Maple kitchen with granite counters, maple built-ins in family room, luxury master suite, and walkout lower level with rec room and bar. $699,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

CENTENNIAL PARK – Custom-built 4-bedroom, 3½-bath home overlooking the pond in one of Saline's most desired subs. Incredible flair inside and out with professional landscaping, stunning interior spaces, and beautiful décor. Luxury first-floor master suite, two-story living room, back stair, and bonus room. $695,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SAGINAW HILLS – This custom-built home by Dion sits on one of the most beautiful settings available. Enjoy gorgeous pond views from this premier setting on Ann Arbor's west side. Oversized living room with vaulted ceiling and fireplace, open kitchen, study, beautiful master suite with view of water, and finished basement. $619,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SAGINAW HILLS – This custom-built 4-bedroom, 2½-bath home is a contemporary lover's dream. Spacious 1.1-acre lot is extensively landscaped and very private. Interior features vaulted ceilings, clean lines, crisp décor, granite kitchen counter tops, metal railings, unique floor plan, and contemporary flair. $524,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

HAMBURG TWP – Gorgeous custom-built home with a stately hilltop setting. The finest materials used with extensive landscaping including a waterfall. Interior includes custom cherry kitchen with granite counters, hardwood floors, dramatic spaces, and tons of moldings. $499,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

PLEASANT LAKE – This lakefront home has one of the finest views you will find anywhere in the Ann Arbor area. Breathtaking panoramic views of Pleasant Lake from this completely updated home. New kitchen, Corian countertops, great room with stone fireplace, and extensive decking, landscaping, dock, etc. $479,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW CONSTRUCTION

NEW LISTING – SALINE – This is the first spec being built in Legacy Heights by Bayberry Construction. Saline's newest neighborhood located at Maple and Textile. Super sharp 4-bedroom, 2½-bath colonial on a spacious ½-acre lot. Wonderful touches including 3-car garage, cherry kitchen, and granite counter tops. $438,949. **Call Matt Dejanovich 476-7100.**

NEW CONSTRUCTION

NEW LISTING SALINE – Another fabulous new home in Huntington Woods by Bayberry Construction. Gracious 4-bedroom, 2½-bath home loaded with quality features and amenities including 3-car garage, view out basement, cherry kitchen, and granite counters. $431,020. **Call Matt Dejanovich 476-7100.**

SHA ESTATES – This is a super 4-bedroom, 3½-bath home on private cul-de-sac lot. Gracious custom-built home has great features inside and out. Oversized backyard, large deck, great room with vaulted ceiling, luxury master suite with one of the largest closets you will find, and finished walkout basement. $429,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

GRASS LAKE – This is the perfect country property. Gorgeous Cape Cod-style home with wrap-around front porch nestled in a picturesque 2.5-acre wooded setting. Like-new 4-bedroom, 2½-bath home features great room with vaulted ceiling, large kitchen, luxury master suite, and walk-out basement. $379,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – LOCH APLINE – Spacious 3-bedroom, 2½-bath ranch on a private wooded lot in one of the area's most desirable country club neighborhoods. Enjoy gorgeous hilltop views from the ample deck and three-season porch. High quality interior includes two stone fireplaces, Pella windows, and finished basement. $369,500. **Call Matt Dejanovich 476-7100.**

MANCHESTER – Gracious 4-bedroom, 2½-bath 2,700 sq. ft. colonial on 9 gorgeous acres just outside of town. Enjoy total seclusion and privacy in this custom-built home nestled in a former tree farm. Features include 3-car garage, maple kitchen, slate floor, luxury master suite, and unfinished bonus room. $349,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

YPSILANTI – This is an absolutely gorgeous home loaded with character inside and out. Large front porch and oversized fenced yard. Interior features oak floors, original woodwork, large rooms, back stair, and finished basement. $229,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

HAMBURG TWP – Super sharp 3-bedroom, 2-bath ranch on a spacious acre lot in the Dexter School District. Home is in move-in condition with a large living room, master suite with attached bath, and huge deck. Additional workshop is perfect for your hobby and features concrete floor, heat, and bath. $219,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

CHELSEA – Attention first-time home buyers. Super sharp 3-bedroom, 1-bath ranch within walking distance to downtown Chelsea. Great opportunity with many nice features including fresh paint, partially finished basement, and fenced backyard. $179,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

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BACK PAGE

I SPY

by Sally Bjork

Dedicated in 1881, this Gothic structure was the third building for this church's congregation.

To enter this month's I Spy contest, use the clue above and the photo at right to find the spot shown, and send your entry to the address at the bottom of the page.

December's I Spy, the U-M's Frieze Building, at State and Huron, was originally built in 1907 as Ann Arbor High School and incorporated Ann Arbor's public library—one of 2,500 "Carnegie Libraries" funded by steel magnate Andrew Carnegie. Recently the U-M identified the site as ideal for a dormitory and academic complex; plans are to level most of the building, preserving only the Carnegie Library at the northeast corner. Preservationists, neighborhood residents, and Ann Arbor High School alumni have launched a campaign to save the building. "It remains to be seen whether [the demolition] really will happen," noted entrant Cendra Lynn of Ann Arbor. "Those AA High people are pretty tough and mighty determined." Richard Charlton of New York City reminisced, "I had classes there my first semester as an undergrad, and will miss it."

The winner of our random drawing, Ann Arborite Marilyn Bigelow, will receive a copy of Jonathan L. Marwil's *History of Ann Arbor.* Bigelow echoed many other December entrants: "The Frieze Building—what a shame to lose it."

FAKE AD

by Jay Forstner

We received 107 correct responses and only two incorrect ones to the Fake Ad for Webrona Baltic Motor Works on p. 110 of the December Observer.

"Good lord!" wrote Ann Arbor's Bruce Kennedy. "Even I found the Fake Ad this month. It is obviously the Alliance car ad. If I win, please don't tell my wife; she has been trying to win for months!" Relax. Your secret is safe with us. What happens in the Fake Ad Contest stays in the Fake Ad Contest.

Besides, in a stunning reversal of the 1960 presidential election, Kennedy didn't win. That honor went to Ann Arbor's Larry Baitch, who wrote, "As a car nut, I look forward to the new 2005 models roaring in from the Baltics. If the Yugo is any indication of Eastern European quality and power, the Big Three need not worry about further losses in market share." Baitch says he's been participating in our little contest for ten years but has entered only twice. He's taking his gift certificate to Abbott's Nursery and Garden Center.

To enter the contest for January, identify the Fake Ad by name and page number and let us know at the address below. Remember, we always conceal the magic word *arborweb,* the name of the Observer's website, in the Fake Ad (in December, *Webrona* came right after *Arbor*). The winner of our random drawing will receive a $25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue.

Send separate entries to Fake Ad or I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104. *Fax:* (734) 769–4950. *E-mail:* penny@aaobserver.com. You must include your name, address, and telephone number! All correct entries received in the Observer office by noon on Monday, January 10, will be eligible for the January drawings.

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EVENTS AT A GLANCE

*A capsule guide to selected major events in January. See p. **49** for a complete listing of this month's Gallery, Band, and Events reviews. Daily events listings also begin on p. **49**.*

Pop, Rock, Blues, & Jazz

- Marc Cohn (singer-songwriter), Jan. 3 & 4
- Michigan Songwriters Festival with several local singer-songwriters, Jan. 6
- The Madhuban Ensemble (jazz), Jan. 7
- RFD Boys (bluegrass), Jan. 7
- Hawthorne Heights (hard-rock), Jan. 7
- Siegel-Schwall Band (blues), Jan. 8
- Alberta Adams (blues), Jan. 8
- The Dirtbombs (garage rock), Jan. 8
- Johnny Lang (blues), Jan. 10
- Jazzistry (jazz), Jan. 11
- The Osama Project (jazz), Jan. 12
- James Armstrong (jazz), Jan. 12
- Dennis Stroughmatt & Creole Stomp (Louisiana), Jan. 13
- Phil DeGreg (jazz), Jan. 13
- Dana Cooper (folk-rock singer-songwriter), Jan. 14
- Fonn Mor (Celtic rock), Jan. 14
- Charlie King (singer-songwriter), Jan. 15
- Saturday Looks Good to Me (pop-rock), Jan. 15
- Eddie from Ohio (acoustic folk-rock), Jan. 16 & 17
- Bright Eyes (rock 'n' roll), Jan. 18
- Vinx (singer-songwriter), Jan. 18
- Hem (Americana), Jan. 19
- Rachael Davis (singer-songwriter), Jan. 20
- Out Loud Chorus (pop), Jan. 21 & 22
- The Mammals (acoustic rock 'n' roll), Jan. 21
- Amp Fiddler (funk-soul), Jan. 21
- Matisyahu (Hasidic reggae), Jan. 23
- Eric Bibb (singer-songwriter), Jan. 24
- Beth Patterson (singer-songwriter), Jan. 25
- Ashford & Simpson (pop-soul), Jan. 26
- Imaginary Folk (avant-jazz), Jan. 28
- Ann Arbor Folk Festival with the Indigo Girls, the Blind Boys of Alabama, Keb' Mo', Richard Thompson, & others, Jan. 28 & 29
- Ellen Rowe Quartet (jazz), Jan. 29
- Audra McDonald (jazz), Jan. 30

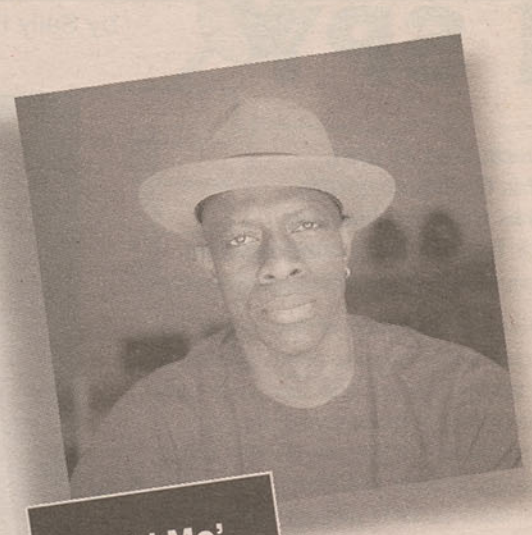
Ethnic & Traditional Music

- Small Potatoes (folk), Jan. 21
- Uncle Earl (folk), Jan. 21
- Yiddishe Cup (klezmer), Jan. 22

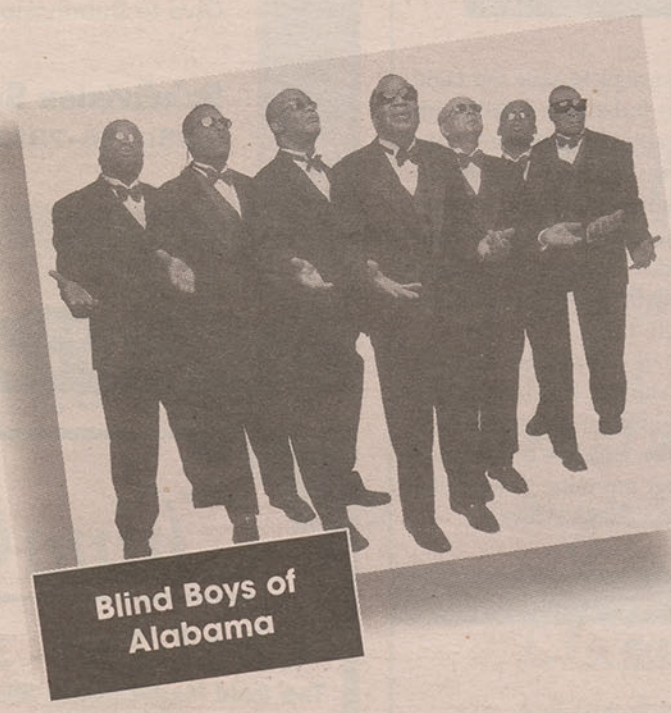
Theater, Opera, & Dance

- *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Ann Arbor Civic Theater), Jan. 6–9
- *The Rivals* (Huron High School), Jan. 13–15
- *Boston Marriage* (Performance Network), Jan. 13–15, 20–23, & 27–30
- Ronald K. Brown's modern dance troupe Evidence, Jan. 16 & 17
- *Phedre* (U-M Basement Arts Theater), Jan. 20–22
- *Norma and Wanda* (Purple Rose Theater), Jan. 20–23 & 26–30
- Glen Williamson's one-man play *Who Am I This Time/The Kid Nobody Could Handle*, Jan. 21
- *Dancing DisPlay* (EMU Dance Department), Jan. 21–23
- Mosh Pit Theater (Performance Network), Jan. 27–30

Steppin' in It



Keb' Mo'



Blind Boys of Alabama

Whit Hill

This year's Folk Festival features veteran L.A. singer-guitarist Keb' Mo', Lansing string quartet Steppin' in It, Welsh-born singer-songwriter Martyn Joseph, renowned gospel group the Blind Boys of Alabama, and local singer-songwriter Whit Hill.

Classical & Religious Music

- Clarinetist Kimberly Aseltine, violist Eva Stern, & pianist Joel Schoenhals, Jan. 8
- Ann Arbor Academy of Early Music, Jan. 9
- Contralto Stephanie Blythe, Jan. 13
- Kerrytown Concert House "Wine, Women, & Song" cabaret, Jan. 14 & 15
- Cellist Suren Bagratuni & Friends, Jan. 15
- Ann Arbor Grail Singers, Jan. 16
- Gustavus Adolphus College Choir, Jan. 21
- Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, Jan. 22
- Jupiter String Quartet, Jan. 23
- Lahti Symphony Orchestra, Jan. 26
- Chamber Music Ann Arbor, Jan. 28
- U-M Michigan Chamber Players, Jan. 30

Family & Kids' Stuff

- Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum Martin Luther King Day Celebration, Jan. 17
- *Owl's Winter* (Wild Swan Theater), Jan. 20–22
- Rudolf Steiner School Winter Festival, Jan. 23
- *Vivaldi's Ring of Mystery* (Classical Kids, Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra), Jan. 23

Films

- Preview of Ken Burns's PBS film *Unforgivable Blackness*, Jan. 12

Comedy & Performance Art

- "Jeff Daniels: Onstage & Unplugged," Jan. 5–8
- Comic Allyn Ball, Jan. 6–8
- Comic Leo DuFour, Jan. 13–15
- Conceptual artist DJ Spooky's *Rebirth of a Nation*, Jan. 14
- Comic Dave Mordal, Jan. 20–22
- Comic Tom Mabe, Jan. 27–29

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- Second Baptist Church Unity March, Jan. 9
- Saline Future Farmers Farm Toy Show, Jan. 22
- Chinese Culture and Heritage Celebration, Jan. 22
- Michigan Tango Festival, Jan. 22–24
- Jewish Community Center Tu B'Shevat Celebration, Jan. 23
- Chinese New Year Celebration, Jan. 29

Lectures & Readings

- Fiction writers Steven Gillis and Stefan Kiesbye, Jan. 12
- Poet Stuart Dybek, Jan. 12
- Fiction writer Davy Rothbart, Jan. 18
- Fiction writer Sarah Schulman, Jan. 19
- Poet Laura Kasischke, Jan. 20
- Poet Carolyn Forche, Jan. 25

Conferences & Forums

- U-M Martin Luther King Jr. Symposium, Jan. 6, 12, 19, 25–27, & 30

"Only in Ann Arbor" Event of the Month

- Ann Arbor Poetry Slam "Bad Poetry Night," Jan. 4

A&D university of michigan school of art & design
calendar of events

January '05

S M T W T F S

1

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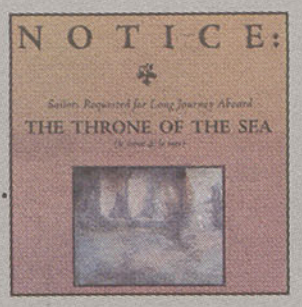
12.20 – 02.05
EXHIBITION: **DELINQUENT SYSTEMS**
Some systems have a mind of their own. The delinquent systems of the domestic, the body, the senses, landscape, and technology are the subjects for artists Christa Donner, Robert Goodman, Andrea Landau, Jason Yoh, and A&D MFA candidate Chris Landau.

RECEPTION: 01.07, 6:00 – 9:00pm

Warren Robbins Gallery
Art & Architecture Bldg., M-F 9am-5pm

8



01.07 – 01.14
EXHIBITION: **THE THRONE OF THE SEA**
A senior thesis exhibition by A&D undergraduate Benjamin Schneider.

RECEPTION: 01.07, 6:00 – 10:00 pm

The Gallery in the Duderstadt Center
2281 Bonisteel Blvd.

9 10 11 12 13 14

01.11 – 02.04
EXHIBITION: **CHARACTER ASSASSINATION**
Experimental typography and graphic design by A&D MFA candidate Ben Van Dyke.

RECEPTION: 01.13, 6:30 – 9:30pm
featuring artist's talk at 7:00 and a performance by Brian Schorn.

Rankin Gallery,
Ferris State University
113 Rankin Student Center, Big Rapids, Michigan

PENNY W. STAMPS DISTINGUISHED VISITORS SERIES PRESENTATION:
MIERLE LADERMAN UKELES
Currently the Artist of the Fresh Kills Landfill, Ukeles' 25-year long Artist in Residency in the NYC Department of Sanitation was selected in 2003 as one of the greatest public art works of all time.

PRESENTATION: 5:00pm
FREE ADMISSION

Michigan Theater
603 E. Liberty

01.14 – 02.04
EXHIBITION: **PLUPERFECT PLURAL**
An exhibition including A&D professor Jim Cogswell, Elaine S. Wilson, Sally Bowker, Lester Johnson, Carol Jurgens and Catherine Peet. 989.751.1043

RECEPTION: 01.14 6:00 – 9:00pm

Buckham Gallery
134-1/2 West Second Street, Flint, MI 48502
989.751.1043

16 17 18 19 20 21 22

PRESENTATION:
FALSE CONVICTIONS: WOMEN, PRISON AND REPRESENTATION
A presentation by A&D professor Carol Jacobsen.

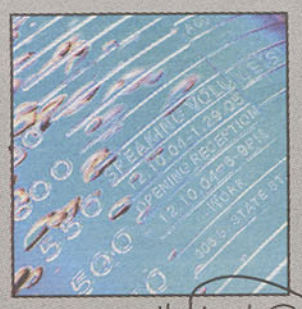
PRESENTATION: 7:30pm
FREE ADMISSION

Eastern Michigan University
Halle Library Auditorium

PENNY W. STAMPS DISTINGUISHED VISITORS SERIES PRESENTATION:
DVJ KRIEL
Charles Kriel is the BBC's resident VJ and a Pioneer ProDVJ who has exhibited and performed at the Venice Biennale and the ICA. A reception for the artist follows at Work exhibition space, 306 S. State Street.

PRESENTATION: 5:00pm
FREE ADMISSION

Michigan Theater
603 E. Liberty



23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

PENNY W. STAMPS DISTINGUISHED VISITORS SERIES PRESENTATION:
TORI ARPAD
Arpad's work explores the ephemeral nature of memory. Her sculpture, mixed media installations and video works reveal the traces of physical actions, the patterns of thought and residue of processes.

PRESENTATION: 5:00pm
FREE ADMISSION

Michigan Theater
603 E. Liberty

01.28 – 03.05
EXHIBITION: **JIM COGSWELL: DEFINITE ARTICLE**
An exhibit of richly textured new paintings by A&D professor Jim Cogswell, in which compositions based on human figures and letters are sequenced to form "word images": THE, THAT, WHICH, IN. www.pccart.org

RECEPTION: 01.28, 6:00 – 8:00pm

Paint Creek Center for the Arts
407 Pine Street, Rochester, MI 48307
248-651-4110

*Last Day!

12.10 – 01.29
EXHIBITION:
2004 FACULTY EXHIBITION
Featuring work in a range of media by full time faculty at the School of Art & Design.

Jean Paul Slusser Gallery
Art & Architecture Bldg., M-F 11am-3pm, Sa 11am-4pm

12.10 – 01.29
- EXHIBITION: **SPEAKING VOLUMES**
3-dimensional work in a variety of media by School of Art & Design undergraduates.
- EXHIBITION lower level: **(OUR)SELVES**
New work by A&D undergraduates James Arndt, Mary Paul and Emily Squires.

*Last Day!

Work
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Sign language interpreter provided upon advance request for lectures. University of Michigan, School of Art & Design, Art & Architecture Bldg., 2000 Bonisteel Blvd., Ann Arbor, MI
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